



No 61,505

THE TIMES Tomorrow
Night must fall... and what goes on when it does? Tomorrow, Modern Times talks, bleary-eyed, to the people who come alive as the rest of the nation goes to sleep.
On the books page: Bryan Appleyard reviews Buckminster Fuller's recipe for world salvation, Richard Holmes finds a new conservative streak in Tom Wolfe and Mary Cosh reports on a "stunning" recreation of the last days of Oscar Wilde.

Strike ends as BSC retreat

Striking steel workers in South Yorkshire were told to go back to work by the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation after the British Steel Corporation backed down on the imposition of redundancies and new shift arrangements. **Page 2**

US owns 50pc of Sotheby's

Sotheby's, the London-based fine art auctioneers at the centre of a \$60m takeover battle, is now believed to be more than 50 per cent owned by American interests. **Page 13**

Reagan appeal

President Reagan asked Morocco to mediate between the PLO and Jordan after they failed to agree a common approach to Middle East peace, senior Arab diplomats said in Rabat. **Page 6**

Phone box loss

Nearly 17,000 of Britain's 77,000 public telephone boxes will disappear if British Telecom is sold to private investors, Mr Alan Tiffin, general secretary of the Union of Communication Workers, claimed. **Page 3**

Back to Siberia

Six Pentecostals left the American embassy in Moscow, where they have been for nearly five years, to return to Siberia in the hope that the Soviet authorities will let them emigrate. **Page 5**

Gold fraud trial

A key figure allegedly involved in a £2m VAT gold fraud used a false name and "totally vanished", a court was told. **Page 3**

Walesa meeting

Mr Lech Walesa, who held a three-day conference with underground Solidarity leaders to "coordinate the position" of the banned Polish free trade union, according to a communiqué read by his wife. **Page 5**

Banker's call

Agencies like the International Monetary Fund and World Bank should play a bigger role in channelling international capital flows, Sir Jeremy Morse, chairman of Lloyds Bank, said. **Page 13**

Flood alerts

Shipping on the Rhine and Mosel rivers was halted and disaster alerts were declared in the cities of Bonn, Cologne and Trier as flooding spread through south-western Germany. **Page 4**

Rare Master

Severiano Ballesteros adopted a rare conservative approach in winning the Masters golf tournament for the second time at Augusta, Georgia. **Page 19**

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Letters: On post-coital pill, from Professor Glanville Williams, QC; Cambodian refugees, from Mr M Barber and others; Third World aid, from Mr H Murray. **Page 11**

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Interest rate set to reach 10pc this week

● Expectations of lower interest rates, lower inflation are pushing rates down. ● Higher productivity and moderate pay increases, rather than a lower pound, are the only lasting answer to Britain's industrial problems, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, told Westminster Chamber of Commerce. ● United States money supply growth and inflation are likely to be less than expected with bank base rates being cut by a half over the next few months, according to point to 10 per cent. Firmer sterling and Volcker, US Federal Reserve chairman.

By Peter Wilson-Smith and Frances Williams

Bank base rates are virtually certain to fall this week from 10½ to 10 per cent after yesterday's performance in the markets. Share prices hit new records and sterling rose strongly against leading currencies.

The City is convinced that the clearing banks will cut base rates by the end of the week, despite tough action taken by the Bank of England to prevent rates falling too far too fast.

The FT Index of 30 leading shares closed at a record 687.7 yesterday - up 3.8 points on the day. The market has been racing ahead because of the trend towards lower interest rates. At one stage it was up 6.6 points but a big £77.2m share issue from GKN, one of the country's leading engineering companies, took some of the steam out of the rise.

The pound has staged a dramatic recovery as fears of an oil price war have receded. It is in demand again yesterday, adding to the big gains of the previous day.

Hopes of an early election leading to a Conservative victory have also helped and the pound closed up 1.45 cents against the dollar at \$1.5415, the highest closing level for nearly two months. The pound's value against a basket of currencies was also up 0.4 at 82.0 yesterday, the best since January 21.

The Bank of England has been working hard to keep rates up and has been worried that a hasty cut in base rates could undermine sterling's new-found strength. But there were signs yesterday that the Bank's line may be softening.

It gave no sign that it was ready to endorse lower rates yet but it was more generous than in previous days in relieving cash shortages in the money markets, which suggests it may be preparing to allow rates to fall.

A cut in base rates would help to head off the danger of a rise in the mortgage rate which some building societies believe is necessary with bank rates at their present level.

However, once base rates fall by half a percentage point from existing levels of 10½ per cent, the authorities are likely to be reluctant to see any further falls for a while.

Business News, page 13

Cousin of Aitken is TV-am chief

By Kenneth Gosling

Mr Jonathan Aitken, MP, who replaced Mr Peter Jay as chief executive of TV-am, the breakfast television station, a month ago this week, hands over the post to his cousin, Mr Timothy Aitken, from tomorrow.

The appointment will last, according to TV-am, for at least a year, as will the appointment of Mr Roger Frye to the new post of financial director. Both have been approved by the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

During their tenure of office with TV-am, Mr Timothy Aitken and Mr Frye will relinquish their positions with Aitken Hume, the financial services company and the major institutional shareholder in TV-am. Mr Timothy Aitken is that company's chief executive and his cousin Jonathan is chairman. Mr Frye is the financial controller.

The announcement was made on the day the latest breakfast television ratings were announced by the Broadcasters' Audience Research Board (BARB). These showed no further drop in the TV-am audience from 400,000. But the Saturday figure is down from 1,600,000 to 1,100,000, with Sunday creeping up from 300,000 to 500,000.

BBC television *Breakfast Time* show showed a fall in its average weekday viewing figure from 1,800,000 to 1,300,000.

TV-am's statement on the executive changes was given to the station's staff yesterday afternoon. Mr Jonathan Aitken, whose appointment, though temporary, was controversial, will remain an executive director. His cousin Timothy, aged 38, a grandson of Lord Beaverbrook, and Mr Frye join the TV-am board.

Mr Jay, who had been chairman as well as chief executive of TV-am, and is now president had no comment: but the man who took over as chairman, Lord Marsh, said, "I am absolutely delighted with these appointments and grateful to Timothy Aitken for taking what was for him a difficult decision."

NCB's £115m loss threatens pits

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The National Coal Board lost £115m last year and faces a further substantial drop in UK consumption that is likely to accelerate pit closures.

Leaders of the three mining unions were given that gloomy forecast of the industry's fortunes yesterday at the first top-level consultative meeting attended by Mr Arthur Scargill, left-wing president of the National Union of Mineworkers, since he took office more than a year ago.

Mr Scargill said afterwards: "Whenever the coal board make a statement or present statistics they confirm the view that I have expressed and the union has expressed: the NCB and the Government intend to inflict savage pit closures on the mining industry."

According to up-to-date figures given to the mining unions by Mr Norman Siddall, outgoing chairman of the coal board, the state enterprise will record an overall deficit of £115m for 1982-83 after interest charges and agreed deficit grants.

Of that figure £70m is being attributed to disputes in the industry, including sympathy strikes in support of the health workers last summer, an abortive overtime ban last autumn and the recent strike in South Wales over the closure of Ty Mawr-Lewis Merthyr colliery.

Consumption of coal by industry, the electricity generating authorities and households fell last year to 110 million tonnes, the lowest level since 1967, and the continuing recession points to a four million tonne reduction in that figure during 1983-84.

At the same time output from new mines, including the Selby colliery, will practically double to about three million tonnes, and other new capacity at existing pits will come on stream.

The inescapable conclusion of these figures is that the coal board will seek further pit closures at a more rapid rate than hitherto. Only eight pits, closed in the last financial year, and two were merged.

Ironically, the miners are working harder while the market for their product shrinks. In the last quarter of the financial year productivity was up by 4 to 5 per cent.

The management is scaling down its overall sales prospects for 1983-84 to 116 million tonnes, of which 104 million tonnes would come from deep-mined sources and the rest from opencast sites.

Pressure mounts in war widows campaign

By Michael Horsnell

A campaign for Government assistance to enable Second World War widows to visit the overseas graves of their husbands gathered momentum yesterday in the wake of the Falklands pilgrimage by next-of-kin.

Baroness Jeger tabled a question in the House of Lords asking the Government to reconsider its refusal to help widows who have never been able to pay their last respects.

British War Widows and Associates, the organization which has been campaigning for free travel for next-of-kin, is also to ask Sir John King, chairman of British Airways, who arranged free flights to the south Atlantic for the Falklands bereaved, to give his support.

The Government stands by the arrangements introduced in 1967 which allow - though not retrospectively - next-of-kin and a companion to travel free to visit the grave of a serviceman buried overseas within two years of the burial. It was under this arrangement that the Falklands visit went ahead.

After the Second World War some financial assistance was given to relatives to visit cemeteries in Europe, but this was discontinued in 1978.

Climax of a magnificent obsession



Success at last: Sir Richard Attenborough and Ben Kingsley with their awards last night.

Eight-Oscar triumphs in Hollywood

From Iver Davis, Hollywood

Sir Richard Attenborough's 20-year magnificent obsession, his film *Gandhi*, last night monopolized the 55th Academy Awards ceremony in Hollywood by winning eight Oscars - more than any other British film in Academy history.

Gandhi won the plum awards for best picture, best director and best actor (Ben Kingsley).

A jubilant Sir Richard, who had already pocketed most of the other main film awards in the last few months, said that *Gandhi*'s victory was a triumph for the once-ailing British film industry "and will show the world that the success of *Chariots of Fire* last year was simply not another flash in the pan".

He added: "No British film in history has ever won this number of Oscars - not *Lawrence of Arabia*, not *Bridges on the River Kwai* nor *Oliver!*".

Surrounded by a tableful of gold statuettes, Sir Richard said wryly: "Nobody believed in the story of a little brown man dressed in a sheet carrying a bean pole."

Indeed, as has already been much chronicled, Sir Richard fought for two decades for the privilege of bringing the life story of Mahatma Gandhi to the screen, even though financial doors were slammed in his face. He finally got his funds from British, Indian and Canadian sources.

Not content with the "cream" awards, *Gandhi* also collected Oscars for costume, art direction, cinematography, editing and screenwriting.

It completely overran all opposition including the American box office sensation *ET*, which has so far taken \$330m at the box office. Steven Spielberg's fable about the endearing creature from outer space won four Oscars, all in the technical category.

As expected, Meryl Streep won best actress award for her role as the beautiful concentration camp victim in the screen version of William Styron's best-selling novel *Sophie's Choice*.

It was a triumphant evening. Continued on back page, col 3

Spain gets tougher on Rock visit

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Señor Fernando Morán, the Spanish Foreign Minister, yesterday told the British Ambassador of his "concern and dismay" over today's scheduled visit by ships of the Royal Navy to Gibraltar.

It was the second time Sir Richard Parsons, the Ambassador, had heard the contents of an official Spanish Note made public on Monday night. He had already visited the Foreign Ministry on Saturday, when it was read to him by a senior official. The Foreign Ministry's chief spokesman had made a mistake reporting on Spanish television on Monday night that the navy had been summoned earlier in the day.

Sir Richard was understood to have emphasized the routine nature of the call by a fleet of 12 ships, headed by the aircraft carrier *Invincible*. Similar visits had occurred in previous years when ships were returning from spring exercises in the eastern Atlantic.

The Ministry of Defence spokesman said that Spring Train was very much a deep-water naval exercise, not one designed to test Gibraltar defences. This had always been the case, he added.

No landings or exercises on the Rock were taking place or had even been planned. The ministry had been in contact with troops stationed in Gibraltar to check that not even a local operation had been designed to coincide with Spring Train.

One possible reason for this year's display of Spanish umbrage is that the Madrid Government had been looking for a good excuse to delay implementation of the Lisbon Agreement, under which the frontier between Gibraltar and Spain would be fully reopened and normal relations restored.

At least four officers demanded a court of honour to question General Galtieri's dishonourable fashion. The three are General Llamas Reston (Interior Minister), General Edgardo Carvi (Chief of the Army General Staff) and General Horacio Varela Ortiz (Director of Fabricaciones Militares, the Army's military-industrial complex).

Statements made by the former President in the interview also offended other senior officers, the Catholic church and Señor Carlos Ortiz de Rosas, the former Argentine Ambassador to Britain.

At least four officers demanded a court of honour to question General Galtieri's dishonourable fashion. Continued on back page, col 1

Tory MP fights to block rival

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Sir Anthony Meyer, Conservative MP for Flint, West, who is in conflict with a member of the European Parliament, Miss Beata Brookes, for the new seat of Clwyd North-west, yesterday accused party officers of using procedural delays to protect his rival.

Sir Anthony, whose present seat will disappear under boundary changes, was beaten by Miss Brookes, MEP for North Wales, at the initial selection conference for the new seat. But Miss Brookes's selection is subject to endorsement by the full paid-up membership of the new constituency association, which is yet to hold its inaugural meeting.

At that meeting Sir Anthony, who has complained of irregularities in Miss Brookes's nomination, hopes to block her candidature and secure a fresh selection. He has the support of Mr Geraint Morgan, MP for Denbigh, whose seat also disappears and who was also beaten initially by Miss Brookes.

Sir Anthony, who with his wife spent part of the Easter recess campaigning in the new seat, said yesterday that out of 100 party workers he had met only eight who supported Miss Brookes, whom he described as "the only Conservative candidate who could lose the seat to the Liberals".

He said the inaugural meeting of the association was being held back because of the prospect of an election in June. "My opponents hope the meeting will be in the middle of an election campaign, too late to challenge Miss Brookes and

Continued on page 2 col 5

GOOD GOD, JEREMY, SOME BOUNDER HAS JUST NUKED OUR FOX!

Huntin' Shootin' and Bombin'

Punch

Take a different look at life

New rules for Scots schools

The Government is going ahead in Scotland with a plan for school examinations and curricula which it appears to have rejected as impractical for England and Wales.

Scottish secondary school children from next year will have a "core curriculum" of English, mathematics and science, with a limited number of options. At the age 16 there will be a new common certificate showing that pupils have completed courses arranged on these levels of competence.

Yet in England and Wales the Department of Education and Science has deferred plans to introduce a common curriculum and is hesitating over a common certificate for 16-year-olds that would replace the "ordinary level" certificate.

Mills victory in TUC election

A left-wing move to prevent Mr Lief Mills, general secretary of the Banking, Insurance and Finance union, from becoming a member of the TUC General Council was heavily defeated yesterday. (Barrie Clement writes.)

But Mr Mills, the first union leader to be elected under a new system of representation on the TUC, was not voted on "for life", as some right-wing elements had wanted. Instead the union's annual delegates conference at Blackpool decided that he should retain the seat for a year and then stand for re-election.

Cowley strike sanction near

The Transport and General Workers' Union was on the brink yesterday of making the washing-up strike at the B.L. plant at Cowley official. The Midlands regional committee has recommended the national executive to do so and Mr Robert Fryer, the union's senior shop steward at the Oxford plant, said yesterday that such "recommendations are usually accepted."

The latest terms offered by Austin Rover to end the strike, now in its third week, will be put to the 5,000 strikers tomorrow.

Forged coins scare unfounded

Lloyds Bank said yesterday that a public scare that large numbers of forged 50p coins were in circulation was caused by unfounded rumours which apparently started with the dropping of the "New" from "New-pence" on the coin last year.

The bank said it had been inundated with calls from shopkeepers and members of the public concerned about possible forged coins.

Rector's service for dead boy

Prebendary Geoffrey Lester, the Rector of Bath Abbey, said yesterday that, at the request of the mother of a boy who died after an accident involving his car, he had conducted the funeral service for her son.

Mr Lester said he officiated at the service at the abbey for Lee Nazier, aged 12, after the boy's mother requested it when he visited her after the accident.

Soldier cleared of selling medal

The Army has cleared Private David Butler, who fought in the Falklands campaign at Goose Green beside Lieutenant-Colonel H. Jones, VC, of allegations that he sold his Falklands medal.

It was accepted that the medal was lost before it turned up in Bournemouth, where dealers offered it for sale for £250.

Jet death crash

The pilot of a single-seat Royal Netherlands Air Force Starfighter jet was killed when his aircraft crashed while flying over Northumberland, yesterday. He was second Lieutenant M. Sassefink-Harkema, aged 26, from south Holland.

We are told the economy is picking up, yet unemployment continues to rise throughout the country. Can you be sure your job is secure?

IF YOU WANT TO SURVIVE THE DOWNWAVE TURN TO PAGE 8

Steel strikers return as BSC yields on redundancy

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

A return to work by striking steel workers in South Yorkshire was ordered last night by leaders of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation after the state-owned British Steel Corporation backed down on the imposition of redundancies and new working arrangements.

About 8,000 steel men have been on strike in the Sheffield and Rotherham area for nine days over the corporation's attempt to make 85 workers compulsorily redundant. They are now being given the option to stay, but all except six have chosen to accept voluntary redundancy pay off.

The strike began when two of those due to be made redundant by the introduction of new shift structures at Aldwarke and Templeborough works refused to accept management instructions. They sent home and other workers came out on strike in support.

Mr William Sims, general secretary of the confederation said last night: "We have won some major concessions from the corporation. What we are most pleased about is that they have agreed on future that they will go through the procedure. It was the imposition of redundancies and new working practices that our men felt most keenly about. They are human beings, and need to be treated as such."

British Steel declined to comment, other than to say: "We welcome the decision to return to work." But the corporation is understood to have agreed in talks lasting 10 hours in Sheffield on Monday that the management will not seek to impose changes in working practices or redundancies.



John Hurt (left), who plays the lead in *Champions*, being advised yesterday during filming at Aintree racecourse, near Liverpool, by Bob Champion, the jockey who fought and beat cancer and returned to win the Grand National in 1981. The film tells Champion's life story.

Journalists to defy police Bill clause

From David Felton, Labour Correspondent, Dundee

Journalists are being urged to defy provisions of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill, now going through the House of Commons, if it means that they would be forced to disclose sources of confidential information.

The annual conference of the National Union of Journalists in Dundee yesterday unanimously backed a proposal by the executive that its members should not comply with disclosure orders made under the new legislation to provide police with confidential documents and records.

The orders, which would be signed by a magistrate, would enable the police investigating a "serious arrestable offence" to enter journalists' homes and offices and search for documents which might be involved in their investigations.

Mr Vincent Hanna, a member of the NUJ executive, said the proposed legislation would lead the police into "fishing expeditions through confidential documents." It would be difficult for journalists to guarantee anonymity to their sources if they knew police would have access to their records.

The proposals would be "a massive, unprecedented and unacceptable change in the law of this country," Mr Hanna said. The provision that search warrants would have to be authorized by a magistrate was no real safeguard and would make such warrants "easier to get than driving lessons."

The union ought to be concerned at such an infringement of journalists' liberty, and should oppose the legislation, including defying the disclosure orders. He promised that any NUJ member threatened under the new laws would be defended by the union. The executive is to prepare guidelines for journalists.

Lawyers' pressure

The Law Society is urging its 40,000 solicitor members in England and Wales to lobby MPs in a last effort to change the Bill (Our Legal Affairs Correspondent writes). The society, one of the Bill's fiercest critics, says the nub of its representations on it is that "increases the powers of the police without providing adequate safeguards against abuse of those powers."

In particular, it says in an article in today's *Law Society's Gazette*, the Bill fails to provide for compulsory tape recording of police interviews with suspects, or a system of independent prosecutors, both of which would balance the new police powers.

On the controversial search powers, which apply to confidential, non-privileged communications in solicitors' hands, the society says all police applications should be to a High Court judge.

Sale room

Getty museum buys Old Masters

By Hsen Mallalieu

The financial power, and also the selectivity, of the Getty Museum, in Malibu, was amply demonstrated in a sale of Old Master drawings at Christie's yesterday, where it bought just four lots but produced almost half of the sale total of \$240,950.

Most notable purchase, at \$108,000, was a lovely brown ink study by Rembrandt of Christ and the Canaanite Woman (estimate \$80,000 to \$100,000). It had a particularly strong provenance.

In the eighteenth century it had belonged to three of the most notable English art collectors, Jonathan Richardson, his son-in-law, Thomas Hudson, and the latter's pupil, Sir Joshua Reynolds. It was then bought by J. B. S. Morritt.

Another of the more expensive lots also doubled its upper estimate. It was one of the best

ink and wash drawings by Giovanni Battista Tiepolo to come on the market for a long time. It showed Antony kissing the hand of Cleopatra, and it went to a private collector from New York, Ian Woodner, at \$60,480 (estimate \$20,000 to \$30,000).

Some 15.5 per cent of the sale total was bought in, but that was largely accounted for by the failure, at \$45,000, of a charming but perhaps too simple ink drawing of a Tuscan hill town by Fra Bartolommeo.

At Sotheby's the main sale of the day was aimed at a very different clientele. They were offering modern sporting guns, firearms and fishing tackle, and the bag was \$111,943, with 5 per cent bought in.

Union picks man for safe set

Mr George Galloway, a leading Scottish left-winger and organizer for the Labour Party in Dundee, has been sponsored by the Transport and General Workers' Union for the Labour Party's candidate of the Rhondda parliamentary seat in South Wales, which fell vacant last month after the death of Mr Alec Jones, Labour's shadow Secretary for Wales.

Mr Galloway, aged 28, said yesterday: "I am greatly honoured to be chosen by my union as their candidate for Rhondda."

The seat is regarded as Labour's safest, with a majority at the last election of 31,481, the biggest Labour majority in Britain.

The final selection will take place on May 26, Mr Galloway is also a candidate for the post of the Labour Party's deputy general secretary.

Mr James White, the Labour MP for Glasgow, Pollok is to fight moves by an outgoing left-wing constituency party to block his nomination to the new Pollok seat, created by parliamentary boundary changes.

Labour rewrites rules to head off challenges

Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent, concludes his examination of the parliamentary candidate selection procedures with the Labour Party.

Labour leaders, having already suffered the trauma of selection, reselection and deletion of candidates and MPs, have no intention of allowing the boundary changes to force yet another round of blood-letting on the party.

It was with that in mind that the party's national executive recently rewrote the rule book to ensure that there would be as few challenges to sitting MPs as possible, to increase pressure on local party activists to behave themselves on the eve of an election.

At the party's 1981 conference the executive had agreed the statement that "in those cases where a reorganized constituency has wholly or partly more than one endorsed prospective candidate, consideration shall be given to the reselection of those persons without inviting nominations from affiliated and party organizations; but if, after this has been done, the constituency Labour Party desires to invite

How parties choose their candidates: 3

Labour rewrites rules to head off challenges

nominations, it shall be free to do so. That statement was later interpreted, with some panic, as an invitation for the activists to go for open selection procedures the open warfare so feared by the party leadership.

It was therefore decided to overrule the rules, and while few seasoned party members believe that Labour will survive the new selection process entirely unscathed, most accept that the executive has done all in its power to limit the damage.

For that purpose, the executive initially listed eight possible permutations. Constituencies which have been left unchanged by the boundary commissions will have their sitting candidates automatically endorsed by the national executive.

In constituencies where the majority of the electorate in the old constituency remains intact and becomes the majority in the new constituency, the candidate representing that majority, if the only candidate with a claim who wishes to stand, shall be automatically endorsed.

In constituencies where more than one candidate has a claim,

and those candidates represent a majority of the new constituency electorate, the new constituency party must select one of those candidates, who will be endorsed. In each of those three permutations, the selection process is completely closed.

Full selection procedure was allowed, however, if the candidate or candidates represented only a minority of the electorate of the new constituency, giving two permutations for the possibility of open selection.

The three remaining openings for full selection procedures were: in completely new constituencies; in constituencies left without a competing candidate; and in those constituencies where the preliminary reselection conference had not previously been held. Those MPs elected at by-elections were "deemed reselected."

But even those revisions did not go far enough for some so the executive was asked to pass a further amendment to cover groups of constituencies in local government areas which had been reorganised but still had sufficient selected candidates for each new constituency "without need for a full selection process". The party

had, indeed got its rules in a twist. It was ruled that: "Where the boundaries of two or more constituencies adjacent to each other with endorsed candidates are altered, but where the number of seats remains the same and no other constituency is involved, then each of the endorsed candidates shall be treated as having a majority claim in any of the new constituencies which includes a part of his or her old constituency."

That meant that even candidates with minority claims could be automatically endorsed, provided there were no other selected claimants, and provided the same number of constituencies remained in the same local government area.

Closed selection meetings are now being organized by regional agents of the party up and down the country.

The Labour Party "A" rule book lays down the process of parliamentary candidate selection, starting with the appointment of delegates, by affiliated and party organizations, to a constituency party general committee and executive committee.

Those same organizations "may nominate an individual member of the Labour Party who is not disqualified under the constitution of the Labour Party or under the decisions of a party conference, as a parliamentary candidate."

Shortlists are drawn up by executive committees, who then report, along with a list of all valid nominations, to the general committee of the party at an ordinary meeting.

The general committee has the power to add, extend or delete to or from that short list, even to the point of calling nominations in for interview, before fixing a date for a special meeting.

The special meeting of a general committee then picks the candidate on the basis of one delegate, one vote, by eliminating ballot.

The rules then state: "The selection of a prospective parliamentary candidate shall not be regarded as completed until the name of the member selected has been placed before a meeting of the national executive committee, and his or her selection has been duly endorsed."

Concluded

Science report

Mysterious return of prehistoric marsh gas

From Pearce Wright, Science Editor, Lancaster

The atmosphere of the Earth is reverting gradually to its prehistoric state, when it was rich in the marsh gas, methane. The reasons for its steady rise over the past 10 to 20 years are a mystery.

Yet methane is classed as one of the so-called greenhouse-effect gases such as carbon dioxide, which could cause a warming of the Earth as they increase in the atmosphere.

Smoglight is transmitted through them, but conversely the heat energy that is emitted constantly from the ground as infra-red radiation no longer escapes. It is trapped by the greenhouse gases, and a rise in their concentration would lead to a warming of the atmosphere.

The evidence of the change in the level of methane was discussed yesterday by Dr Alan Eggleton, of the Environmental Science Division of Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell, in a symposium on acid rain held by the Royal Society of Chemistry meeting at Lancaster University.

The connection between acid rain, produced by sulphur dioxide from coal-fired power stations and nitrous oxides from other industrial sources, and the discovery of a rise in methane levels could be fundamentally important in a controversy between Britain and its northern European neighbours.

The across the United Kingdom of exporting pollution, which falls as contaminated rain to kill lakes, forests and fertile land.

Experts of the Royal Society of Chemistry were divided sharply on what might be done about acid rain because of the complexity of the chemical reaction in the atmosphere which led to its formation.

For instance, Professor Norman Davies, director of the aerosol research laboratory at Essex University, suggested that acid rain might best be combated not by shutting coal-fired power stations but by introducing tight controls on another source of pollution, the emission of hydrocarbons from cars, and petrochemicals and oil-burning processes.

He argued that the discharged hydrocarbons provided the agents for photochemical reactions with sulphur materials in fact with sulphur and nitrous materials to produce acid rain. Over the long term, however, Professor Davies espoused the need for nuclear power to replace coal burning as an essential way of cutting acid rain.

An opposing argument was put by Mr Brian Price of Earth Resources Research, an environmental group, for the adoption of new types of combustion methods and particularly fluidized bed furnaces in which the sulphur is combined with the ash.

A neutral view was offered by Dr Eggleton, a member of the United Nations scientific group known as the Coordinating Committee of the Ozone Layer.

In studying atmospheric chemistry, research groups in a number of countries have revealed different catalysts and reactions that influenced acid rain formation.

One of those substances they had found in recent monitoring was the alteration in the level of methane. It was important, Dr Eggleton said, to discover where the increase was coming from and what effect it was having in the reactions in the atmosphere.

'New blood' jobs for universities

The Government announced yesterday that 312 new jobs are to be created in universities for scientists and researchers, predominantly in engineering, information technology and the natural sciences.

The jobs will be reserved for academics aged under 35, in the hope of introducing "new blood", as the average age of university staff is rising.

But the distribution of the posts by the University Grants Committee has been criticized for bias towards Oxbridge, London and the established universities and against the newer, more "technological", universities.

Professor John Ashworth, Vice-chancellor of Salford University, a former college of advanced technology, said that the UGC had failed to grasp the need of universities in close contact with industry.

Overseas selling prices
Australia \$1.25, Belgium 120, Canada 1.00, Denmark 1.00, France 1.00, Germany 1.00, Greece 1.00, Hong Kong 1.00, India 1.00, Italy 1.00, Japan 1.00, Korea 1.00, Malaysia 1.00, Mexico 1.00, Netherlands 1.00, New Zealand 1.00, Norway 1.00, Portugal 1.00, Singapore 1.00, Spain 1.00, Sweden 1.00, Switzerland 1.00, Taiwan 1.00, Thailand 1.00, Turkey 1.00, USA 1.00, UK 1.00, Yugoslavia 1.00.

'Invisible mastermind' behind £2m gold fraud plot, QC says

An invisible man was a key figure in a £2m gold fraud conspiracy, Southwark Crown Court, in London, was told yesterday. The plot relied on a front man trading under a false name who "totally vanished", Mr Paul Purnell, QC, for the prosecution, said.

The man took considerable risks for a group set to make millions by not paying value-added tax on gold it had sold on the London gold market, Mr Purnell said. Eight men have been charged with conspiracy to defraud the Customs and Excise of VAT between November, 1981, and March, 1982.

"The scale of the operation was immense. The defendants manipulated the particular VAT exemptions on some gold coins to make a substantial amount of money dishonestly and defraud the customs of more than £2m in tax money", Mr Purnell said.

The group bought more than 75,000 gold coins, mainly Canadian maple leafs and kangaroo coins, which VAT was not charged. The coins were melted and sold as pure gold, on which 15 per cent VAT was charged, but never paid.

"It must have been painful for anyone in the jewelry trade to reduce works of some skill to lumps of metal. It does not make sense at first."

"But the root of this fraud is to melt the coin into scrap and pass it down the line pretending VAT has been paid on it, while in fact the 15 per cent has gone into the pockets of the people who are perpetrating the fraud", Mr Purnell said.

The group set up two front men as traders at the end of the line. But as the operation was finishing and customs men looked for them to claim the VAT "one was not there".

The customs men who had carried out surveillance on the group, found his bank accounts had been terminated and his premises vacated. "He had even changed his appearance radically and, in a real sense, he had disappeared."

But the second front man, trading under another name, was put in by the group after the first man had vanished. So his process of disappearing was not quite complete, Mr Purnell said. "Like the Chinese cat in *Alice in Wonderland*, the smile still remained."

The two front men were named by Mr Purnell as Ronald Evans, aged 42, of Myddleton Square, London, and Peter Burgess, aged 44, of Peterborough Road, Richmond, Mr Evans, he said, traded under the name of Roberts and Mr Burgess under Jennings.

Counsel alleged that one of the masterminds behind the fraud was Charles Wilson, aged 51, of Cranford Way, Twickenham, south-west London.

Two other men, not in the dock, were also "in the top league of the fraud", Mr Purnell said. They had disappeared.

He named them as Daniel Redman, who "took advantage of a massive part of the proceeds", and Mr Raj, "the financier who gained a considerable amount of the dishonest proceeds". Then, Mr Purnell said, came Roy James, aged 47, of Highfield Road, Purley, south London.

There were four other men Mr Purnell said: Gavin Dias, aged 26, of Newbury Park, Ilford; Ronald Lampart, aged 46, of Canterbury Avenue, Ilford; Andrew Daniels, aged 28, of Harris Close, Holwhites Hill, Enfield; and Wayne Myers, aged 28, of Woodcock Hill, Keston, Harrow, all trading under illuminate limited, with premises in Hutton Garden.

"They were concerned in the manufacture and sale of gold jewelry. Together with Mr James they used their skills and company as a means by which the fraud could be carried out, for 1 per cent of the turnover."

The hearing continues today.



Mr Roche reunited with his wife on the return of the Baltic Ferry (inset). Photographs: Bill Warhurst.

Return of a Falklands veteran

Anthony Roche, aged 43, a motorman in the Townsend Thoresen ship Baltic Ferry, was entitled to smile when he disembarked at Felixstowe yesterday (Rupert Morris writes). As he embraced his wife he was able not only to pride himself on having served on board Britain's longest continuously serving ship in the Falklands, the

Baltic Ferry has been in action there since it was requisitioned in Felixstowe on May 1 last year, but also to look forward to relaxing on leave until September, 1984.

Under the terms of the agreement reached between the National Union of Seamen and the Ministry of Defence, he is entitled to a day off for

every day worked, together with an annual leave entitlement of 82 days. He said that he and his wife, who live in Keyham, Plymouth, would have a holiday in America.

The Baltic Ferry saw action when unloading supplies in San Carlos Water, and was buffeted by storms on the way home.

Automatic dialling car phone

A car radiophone service which will allow drivers to dial automatically a telephone number without waiting for an operator is to be launched tomorrow, initially in the south-east, by British Telecom.

The rest of Britain will be offered the service by the end of the year. Drivers will be routed directly to any of Britain's homes which have a telephone or connected to the international direct dialling services of more than 125 countries.

The telephone will cost about £2,000, and more than £100 a quarter to rent.

New rail union elects leader

Mr Colin Coley, aged 43, a guard at New Street station, Birmingham, was elected chairman of the newly formed Federation of Professional Railway Staff at Derby yesterday. The federation was formed by disaffected members of the National Union of Railwaymen and the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef), after last year's strikes.

The federation becomes an unlisted union today. Although it is still seeking certification it will start paying benefits on May 1. The federation has 750 members.

Festival tower plan dropped

A plan to build a futuristic £400,000 observation tower at the Liverpool International Garden Festival is to be abandoned.

Construction difficulties and a tight schedule mean that it will not feature in a £13.8m conversion of derelict dockland into parkland and gardens for the 1984 festival.

Surgeon seeks to appeal

Paul Vickers, aged 48, the surgeon jailed for life for murdering his wife with a course of anti-cancer drug tablets, is seeking leave to appeal against his conviction in the Court of Appeal in London next Monday.

It was recommended that Vickers, of Moor Crescent, Gosforth, Tyne and Wear, should serve at least 17 years after his conviction at Teesside Crown Court in November, 1981.

Corbett ill

Ronnie Corbett, the comedian, has a virus infection, causing the cancellation of *The Two Ronnies* show at the London Palladium last night and tonight. But the presenters said yesterday they hoped Mr Corbett would be fit enough to resume with his partner, Ronnie Barker, tomorrow.

Bishops to hear plea for group confession

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

An international meeting of bishops in Rome in the autumn is likely to hear an urgent appeal on behalf of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales for permission to administer the sacrament of penance, commonly called confession, to large groups of people without the private recital of sins to a priest.

The Vatican has more than once refused such permission, although the bishops of England and Wales have been convinced for some time that group confession holds an answer to the decline in this sacrament, which has alarmed them.

Saturday morning queues of people waiting their turn in a confession box were once a routine feature of church life, but they have dwindled to almost nothing.

The Roman Catholic Episcopal Conference of England and Wales is meeting to prepare its contribution to the Synod of Bishops, whose theme is reconciliation.

That is the name by which the sacrament is sometimes known. It offers the bishop an opportunity to put their case to the church at large, in the hope that if church leaders from other countries support them, the Pope might authorize a change in policy.

Loss of 17,000 phone boxes predicted

By Kenneth Goelling

Britain will lose nearly 17,000 of its 77,000 public telephone boxes if British Telecom is sold off to private investors, a union forecast yesterday.

They would never be replaced, Mr Alan Tuffin, general secretary of the Union of Communication Workers, one of the biggest of British Telecom's six unions, said after a survey carried out in all the union's areas.

But while British Telecom agreed on the figure given by the union of financial losses sustained by the service, nearly £77m last year, it queried specific figures of the disappearance of kiosks.

It pointed out that after privatisation British Telecom would still be required to continue the kiosk service, which was first introduced in Britain in the form of "wooden greenhouses" at the beginning of the century.

The union's calculations also exclude 500,000 boxes not located outdoors or in railway stations, airports and other public places.

Mr Tuffin said that areas such as Devon, Cornwall and



Mr Alan Tuffin

the Lake District would be badly affected.

Industrial action by the Post Office Engineering Union in opposition to the Government's plan to privatise British Telecom was stepped up yesterday when it withdrew members employed on the maintenance of the Whitehall telephone system. The 35 members involved maintain the Government's own telephone exchange which serves all the principal Whitehall buildings.

Mob incited to riot, court told

A man and two youths tried to organize a rioting mob to stage a concerted attack on the police during a night of "appealing violence" on a Liverpool housing estate, a court was told yesterday.

The three shouted and urged on youngsters in a courtyard in Sir Thomas White Gardens, Everton, as the police were pelted with missiles, it was stated at Liverpool Crown Court.

When the police finally arrested the three by using a sledgehammer to smash into their barricaded third-floor flat and vantage point, the night's troubles soon ended, Mr Jack Cowan, for the prosecution, said.

Patrick Chioochi, aged 45, and Patrick Chioochi Jr, aged 17, both of Sir Thomas White Gardens, and a youth aged 16, have all pleaded not guilty to inciting residents to assemble riotously to assault Merseyside police officers on August 4 last. They also deny two charges of fighting and making an affray.

Mr Cowan said trouble began shortly before 11pm on August 3. "Broadly speaking, police officers who were on duty in the area came under attack from a number of youths throwing stones and various objects at them. The officers had to withdraw from Sir Thomas White Gardens until more officers came to assist them."

"The time came when a number of officers tried to get in because a barricade had been laid to prevent police and people trying to assist them from getting into that area."

Mr Cowan said that while some people threw objects at the officers, others were encouraging them and shouting abuse from balconies around the courtyards of the flats.

The people on the balconies included the three defendants, he added. During a full in the disturbance police withdrew without attempting to arrest the three, but about 2am trouble flared again.

Mr Cowan said: "The police officers again came under attack from a number of youths within Sir Thomas White Gardens, this time assisted by these three defendants, throwing objects at police officers rather as others beat on violence were doing, but additionally actually inciting these persons to riot."

The three were encouraging the mob to form a cohesive group to lead a full attack against the police.

Police eventually managed to get to the third floor flat, where they found the door closed and "blocked in such a way that ordinary physical force would not move it and an officer had to use a sledgehammer."

Mr Cowan said that "appealing violence" took place, but within a very short time of "these three inciters of the mob" being arrested the area quietened down.

The trial continues today.

Disc jockey tells court of threats

Mr Noel Edmunds, the disc jockey, told a court yesterday that he had received a telephone call in which a man threatened to break him, wreck his home and destroy him professionally.

He said he believed that the man was Basil Wainwright, who accused at Worcester Crown Court of dishonestly obtaining more than £40,000 from him.

Mr Edmunds described the threats on the second day of the trial in which Mr Wainwright, aged 48, of Yardley Wood, Birmingham, denies a total of 22 charges, including nine of theft.

The court was told on Monday that Mr Edmunds had paid £70,000 into a firm called Craggdon Ltd, of Redditch, Hereford and Worcester. It was set up by Mr Wainwright and Mr Edmunds to develop a hydro-wing power-boat called Excalibur, in which Mr Edmunds hoped to beat the world water speed record. The court was told that all Mr Edmunds got for his money was a miniature model of the boat.

Mr Edmunds said yesterday that he became suspicious of how his money was being used, in July 1981. He then confronted Mr Wainwright in front of television cameras at the Redditch factory. A few days later he received the threatening telephone call.

Sheriff Cuffe, aged 29, of Castle Bromwich, Birmingham, Mr Wainwright's former secretary, has also pleaded not guilty to 10 charges.

The trial continues today.

'Gandhi' triumph cited

£30m fund sought to boost films

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

A £30m aid fund to secure the future of the British film industry, raised through a tax on cinema admission and video, television and cable film sales, was urged on the Government yesterday, by the newly Directors Guild of Great Britain.

While the celebrations continued in Hollywood after the triumph of the British film *Gandhi*, winner of eight Oscars, representatives of the guild, led by Mr Piers Haggard, its chairman, met Mr Ian Sproat, Under-Secretary for Trade to emphasize the need for more finance to help British film-makers.

The guild, whose members include Sir Richard Attenborough, director of *Gandhi*, leading directors in films, theatre and radio and television, was able to back its appeal by illustrating the talent in Britain that had recently produced not only *Gandhi*, but also *Nicholas Nickleby* in the theatre, the award winning film *Chariots of Fire* and the television successes, *Brideshead*

Revisited and *Voyage Round My Father*.

The deputation told Mr Sproat that while British theatre and television were relatively healthy, it was only American companies that had fully recognized and used the talents of British film directors. Britain had also managed to maintain a technical infrastructure able to support much higher production levels through American help.

"It is clear that if the finance were more readily available Britain could become a major provider of films for international markets. It is absurd that we are not exploiting the opportunities open to us."

The guild wants the system known as the Eady levy, a tax on cinema admissions, to be brought up to date and used to raise £30m to £50m a year to help the industry.

Last year the levy brought in £4m of which £1.5m went to the National Film Finance Corporation, £400,000 to the National Film and Television School, and £125,000 to the British Film Institute, with the balance

going to film makers in proportion to their success.

In its submission to the Government, which is reviewing the future of the levy, the Guild argues that none of the money raised should be allocated on an automatic basis to producers "as a reward for the theatrical success of their films".

It wants the money, coming from cinema admissions, video-cassettes and video-recorder manufacture and import, and television networks, cable or satellite systems showing feature films to be used principally to finance an expanded, and considerably restructured, National Film Finance Corporation.

Part of the money should be used for the refurbishment and improvement of old cinemas. Acknowledging recent successes, the guild concluded: "Indigenous British film production has undergone a modest revival in recent months, but it would be foolish to consider this as an indication that we now have a healthy and fully fledged industry."

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Lecturer's win against Law Society

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

Mr Francis Reynolds, the law lecturer who changed his name to Mr Whistlansham in his fight to break the solicitors' conveyancing monopoly, won a small victory yesterday in his continuing fight against the Law Society.

Mr Reynolds, aged 49, is contesting the Bill of Costs for nearly £2,000 he incurred after losing his appeal in 1980 against conviction on charges of preparing conveyancing documents as an unqualified person under the Solicitors Act, 1974.

He claimed that his bills were drawn up by a clerk in the Law Society's firm of

solicitors, and not a qualified solicitor, and that thereby the Law Society had indirectly breached the same Act under which he himself was convicted.

Yesterday Lord Justice Goff and Mr Justice Mann in the High Court held that a City of London magistrate, Mr D B Harrison, was wrong to refuse Mr Reynolds leave to issue a summons against the clerk, Mr John Searle, of Richards, Butler & Company, solicitors.

Giving judgment after the one-hour hearing in which Mr Reynolds, representing him-

self, sought judicial review of the magistrate's decision. Lord Justice Goff said it seemed that the magistrate reached his decision on the basis that there was no substance in the summons, "in other words, it was frivolous".

"I am not holding out any hope that in the outcome Mr Reynolds will prove to be right, but in my judgment Mr Harrison erred in law in saying there was absolutely no substance in this point."

The court therefore quashed the magistrate's refusal and directed that leave be granted for the summons to be issued.

But it rejected Mr Reynolds's claim that the decision had been biased. He had argued that there had been a breach of natural justice because, first, both the magistrate and his clerk were solicitors; second, the clerk stayed in the room when the magistrate made his decision; and third, there were two other magistrates in the room.

Afterwards Mr Reynolds, a Birmingham Polytechnic lecturer who first took on the Law Society nearly ten years ago, said he would be bringing the prosecution himself. "I am rather pleased. This is the bitter bit."

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PARLIAMENT April 12 1983

Minister attacked from both sides over CABs

COMMONS

The Government is to hold an early and independent review of the staff and efficiency of the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux by management consultants or by Department of Trade inspectors, Mr. Geoffrey Chandler, Minister for Consumer Affairs, announced in a statement in the Commons. He was frequently interrupted as he maintained that the steps he was taking in connection with the citizens advice bureaux had nothing to do with the current Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament campaign. The steps had first been noted some months ago.

All I am seeking from the association (he said), is an assurance that improper activities are not taking place, will not be countenanced and will not take place. In his statement on the action he had taken on the grounds of his National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, Dr. Vaughan said the organization fulfilled an important national and local role which the Government fully supported.

I feel I must make that absolutely clear (he said). We have the fullest confidence in the citizens advice bureaux movement as a whole. It is a fine example of voluntary and professional workers working together for the good of the community. Our support has been shown by the rapid increase in this Government's funding. In 1970-80, it was £1.85m; in 1980-81, £4.02m; in 1981-82, £4.91m; £5.75m in 1982-83; and now £6.04m in 1983-84. This money does not go directly to the local bureaux but is paid to the central body, the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, which is used to finance a range of support services for all bureaux.

But increases of this order can have disadvantages and I felt it proper to inquire if the money was being used effectively. I started looking at this in January last year. I may say one of the difficulties which they have freely admitted to me is that they have been without a permanent director from April 1982 to February 1983.

That is one aspect that has concerned me. The other has been allegations of changing attitudes within some citizens advice bureaux and the taking of campaigns which some people have seen as going outside the generally accepted scope of the service.

For example a local chairman resigned recently after 30 years in the service out of disgust, at what was happening in his area, and of course I asked the National Association of CABs to look into this.

I am glad to say the NACAB now have a permanent director and I welcome this in my letter to the chairman on March 21. I said I was not sure whether the present level of grant was correct and that I intended to authorize a six month grant with a review thereafter.

In this context I said I would expect the association to tell me in good time before the middle of the year how it is dealing with the various matters I have raised with ensure some adequate measure of democracy in them.

Mr Shirley Williams (Crosby, SDP): In the light of the disturbing indicators about employment prospects in the next decade from the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, I am writing to you to ask the Government to consider the possibility of compulsory ballots before strikes that this might actually introduce rigidity into the situation at the point where flexibility would be most desirable.

Mr Tibbitt: I understand the point and this has been made by a number of people who have responded to the consultations. The measures which are brought forward will not only be effective, they will be highly flexible too.

the association. To ensure that the money is being effectively used I have proposed, with the full support of the association itself, an early and independent review of its staff and efficiency.

They have also agreed to draft guidelines on the need for impartiality and avoiding activities which can be seen as politically motivated.

My aim throughout has been to endorse and support the giving of accurate and impartial advice and information when it is needed and to ensure that the considerable sums of public money are put to the best use.

These steps have absolutely nothing to do with the current CND campaign and were first mooted some months ago. I hope the House will accept that these steps are simply a prudent exercise of responsibility.

Mr Peter Archer, chief Opposition spokesman on consumer affairs, (Warley, West Lab): The House will welcome what he said about his National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux. Dr. Vaughan said the organization fulfilled an important national and local role which the Government fully supported.

Mr Archer: I am not sure to which of her parties she refers (laughter) — the old one or the new one. (Interjection) The new one she tells me. I can assure her I came to the conclusion these proposals were needed before she swapped parties after she was defeated.

She is confusing democracy in the trade unions with the subject of the grant, which is about returning the property of the unions to those who have decided to implement the new system along the following lines.

I believe that the eight modes of study proposed by the Munn Committee provide a curriculum framework which all schools should adopt, taking account of the particular needs of each school and its pupils. Within this framework all pupils should study English, mathematics and science, and there will be considerable scope for pupils to choose other subjects.

I accept the Downing Committee's proposal for one certificate for all pupils based on the three levels of syllabus of foundation, general and credit. Pupils will be assessed against performance standards related to the syllabus they are studying, practical skills will be assessed internally at all levels where appropriate and we will also be using for other aspects of the syllabus of the new foundation level courses.

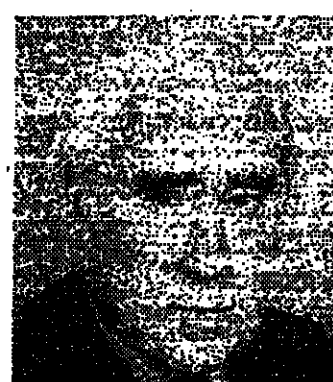
In the light of further experience of the use of internal assessment for certification purposes, I shall at a later date review the place of internal assessment in relation to all three syllabus levels. My aim in any such review will be to maintain and indeed raise standards at all levels.

My consultative paper last autumn set out a four-year implementation programme covering most of the subjects in the school curriculum. Several respondents commented that this was too slow. In view of this evidence of enthusiasm to proceed more quickly and in order to minimize the transitional period I have therefore decided to implement the new system in three years rather than four. This will be done by bringing into the third year of the programme all those subjects originally planned for the fourth.

In addition to these changes I have decided to introduce German at all three syllabus levels and to introduce Italian, Russian and Spanish at general and credit levels in the third year.

One important aspect of implementation is the resources available to support the programme. In the consultative paper we stated that the implementation programme and other priority work on staffing could be carried out with overall national staffing about 4 per cent to 5 per cent over the basic levels set out in what is familiarly known as the Red Book.

I remain of the view that staffing at about this level will be sufficient once the implementation programme has been completed. Nevertheless I recognize that there will be an extra burden upon teachers during the transitional period, particularly now that we have speeded up the programme.



Crouch: Invaluable job



Archer: Vague insinuations

increase in Government funding in recent years.

Mr Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley, L): This is mean-spirited harassment of people who achieve a high ratio of public good to public cost, undreamt of in the Department of Trade. Who will conduct the review and how, and will it be accompanied by a stream of similar publicity?

Dr Vaughan: It will be undertaken either by management consultants (Labour protests and cries of "What's the fee?") or by our own staff inspectors. The CAB is to be consulted on that before I finally decide.

The investigation will have to be completed quickly and thoroughly. I am confident that it will be of value to the service as a whole. I do not accept the other marks Mr Wainwright made.

Mr Frank Allous (Salford, East, Lab): I am the minister read The Sunday Times which this week says that the minister said that there was an inquiry into the CAB. I am sure that the minister said that there was an inquiry into the CAB.

Mr Vaughan: I have never implied that there was any inquiry into the CAB. I have said that I was going to inquire into the CAB. I have said that I was going to inquire into the CAB.

Mr Vaughan: I have never implied that there was any inquiry into the CAB. I have said that I was going to inquire into the CAB. I have said that I was going to inquire into the CAB.

Mr Vaughan: I have never implied that there was any inquiry into the CAB. I have said that I was going to inquire into the CAB. I have said that I have made clear, and will again, that all I am seeking from the organization is an assurance that

improper activities are not taking place, will not be countenanced and will not take place.

Mr Robert MacDonnell (Brentwood and Ongar, C): Many of us are stout supporters to other CABs because of the great work they do for the less well-off people of this country.

Mr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea North, Lab): Did he or did he not make statements about misuse of funds by Mrs Ruddock which were quoted?

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Little future in protecting yesterday's jobs

THE ECONOMY

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, was challenged during questions in Commons about the possible suppression of a report to the meeting of the National Economic Development Council on Monday stating that there would be no growth in employment this decade.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition (Glasgow, West Lab): I am sure that the report of the National Economic Development Council on Monday stating that there would be no growth in employment this decade.

Can she tell us whether the report is suggesting that there will be no increase in jobs this decade? Does she agree with the report or disagree? What was the reason for the proposed suppression?

Mrs Thatcher: I understand that colleagues who attended the meeting argued strongly about the report and about the CAB. They can see some improvement in the prospects for the future. They know that there are new jobs coming from the new industries and that there is a huge influx of people into the country.

Mr Roy Jenkins, Leader of the SDP (Glasgow, Hillhead, SDP): Will the Prime Minister tell us why Mr Geoffrey Chandler, Director General of the National Economic Development Office, was given such a rough time at that? Is he to be made the scapegoat of the Government of the next election?

Mrs Thatcher: I think he forgets that Campbell Adamson was director of the CBI. On this occasion the CBI were supporting the Government's case. So there is obviously no similarity between the two at all.

Mr John Dornand (Eastington, Lab): What is the essential difference between the report on the economy that is being forecast by the Government and the three previous similar forecasts that did not materialize?

Mrs Thatcher: One of the differences is that we appear to be getting an upturn in several countries since the last forecast, which was not the case before.

When we had the first upturn here towards the end of 1981-82 they were at the same time going through the worst of the recession in Germany. There are signs of a similar upturn in the United States, here and in Germany. We believe they are not merely recovering from the downturns on stocks.

Mr Son Sann, the Prime Minister in the coalition, said yesterday before leaving Bangkok for Paris that United Nations experts should also inquire into the disappearance of thousands of civilians from the area where the alleged massacre took place.

The accusations, he said, were based on accounts given to him by wounded Cambodians in an International Red Cross hospital in the Thai province of Surin, just across the border from the resistance base at Shanulville where the massacre is said to have occurred.

They told him that hundreds of civilians, including women and children, had died when Vietnamese soldiers herded large groups of them into bunkers and ditches and attacked them.

A spokesman for Mr Son Sann admitted that there was much conflicting testimony



Emergency on the Mosel

Firemen take supplies by boat to people marooned by floods in the West German city of Zell. The floods, after several days of heavy rain, came as the Mosel overflowed its banks.

Yesterday, shipping on the Rhine and Mosel was halted and disaster alerts declared in the cities of Bonn, Cologne and Trier as flooding spread through south-western Germany.

Firemen and volunteers worked all night in Trier laying sandbags and pumping water flooding from the Mosel, swollen by rain in France and West Germany. Some residents had to be evacuated by boat.

River police said shipping on the Rhine had been suspended until at least next week

as the river rose to its highest level since 1970. Shipping was also halted on the Mosel and several smaller rivers in the south-west. The Rhine was almost 19ft above its normal level in Bonn and officials said the water was still rising as torrential rain continued to fall. Flood waters spread to within 100 yards of Parliament.

Riverside residential areas in Cologne, Bonn and Koblenz were flooded, causing damage worth millions of marks. All roads from West Germany to Luxembourg were closed by the floods.

In neighbouring north-eastern France, three people were reported drowned and two motorists were missing after three days of flooding.

Cambodia 'massacre' inquiry call

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

The anti-Vietnamese coalition Government of Cambodia has called on the United Nations Secretary-General to send a commission of inquiry to investigate allegations that Vietnamese troops massacred hundreds of civilians in western Cambodia on April 4.

Mr Son Sann, the Prime Minister in the coalition, said yesterday before leaving Bangkok for Paris that United Nations experts should also inquire into the disappearance of thousands of civilians from the area where the alleged massacre took place.

The accusations, he said, were based on accounts given to him by wounded Cambodians in an International Red Cross hospital in the Thai province of Surin, just across the border from the resistance base at Shanulville where the massacre is said to have occurred.

They told him that hundreds of civilians, including women and children, had died when Vietnamese soldiers herded large groups of them into bunkers and ditches and attacked them.

A spokesman for Mr Son Sann admitted that there was much conflicting testimony

European cities seek nuclear-free zones

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Local authority leaders from five countries agreed in Brussels yesterday to work together to turn Europe into a nuclear-free zone. The five countries are: Belgium, The Netherlands, West Germany and Italy.

Mr Risby and Mr Michael Burns, chairman of the South Yorkshire County Council, both attended the Brussels meeting. "The time is now ripe for the forging of international links," Mr Burns said.

The Brussels two-day meeting essentially agreed to spread an idea, born in Manchester, all over the Continent. That idea was successfully put forward by Mr William Risby in 1981 to declare the city a nuclear-free zone.

Since then, at least 140 other local authorities in Britain, all Labour-held, have followed this

example, as have a growing number of local authorities in Belgium, The Netherlands, West Germany and Italy.

Mr Burns said. He emphasized the need to start a campaign in schools to oppose the nuclear arms race and this point was firmly taken up in the final appeal of the meeting. It encourages "educational authorities to stimulate peace studies in their schools and colleges for the general public".

Britain and China are negotiating over Hongkong's future after 1997, when the British lease on most of it expires.

The British Nationality Act gives the British Government power to grant citizenship to aliens and Commonwealth residents on the basis of their service to the Crown.

Hongkong citizens born in the Colony are entitled to a Hongkong British passport which does not include the right to live in Britain.

Britain and China are negotiating over Hongkong's future after 1997, when the British lease on most of it expires.

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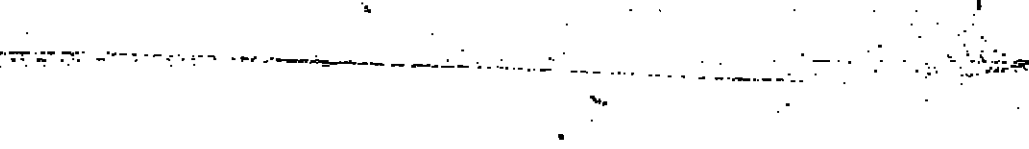
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House prices could fall by as much as 80% over the next ten to fifteen years. What appears to be a sound investment now might well become a millstone in the future.

IF YOU WANT TO SURVIVE THE DOWNWAVE TURN TO PAGE 8

New assessment system for Scottish children

EDUCATION

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, outlined in a statement in the Commons proposed changes in the arrangements for the curriculum and assessment of 14 to 16 year olds in school in Scotland.

Mr Younger said: One of my main concerns since coming into office has been to advance a development programme designed to introduce radical new arrangements for the curriculum and assessment of all 14 to 16 year olds at school in Scotland, building on the recommendations of the Munn and Downing reports published in 1977.

I am glad to have this opportunity to pay tribute to the hard work of those who have taken on the burden of the development work since then and who have ensured the success of the programme, the results of their work were fully reported in the consultative paper The Munn and Downing Reports: Framework for Decision,

which I published in September last year.

I received several hundred comments upon that paper and I am very grateful for the time and thought which was put into them. The respondents overwhelmingly supported the principle of the introduction of the arrangements proposed in the paper. I have considered their comments and I have decided to implement the new system along the following lines.

I believe that the eight modes of study proposed by the Munn Committee provide a curriculum framework which all schools should adopt, taking account of the particular needs of each school and its pupils. Within this framework all pupils should study English, mathematics and science, and there will be considerable scope for pupils to choose other subjects.

I accept the Downing Committee's proposal for one certificate for all pupils based on the three levels of syllabus of foundation, general and credit. Pupils will be assessed against performance standards related to the syllabus they are studying, practical skills will be

assessed internally at all levels where appropriate and we will also be using for other aspects of the syllabus of the new foundation level courses.

In the light of further experience of the use of internal assessment for certification purposes, I shall at a later date review the place of internal assessment in relation to all three syllabus levels. My aim in any such review will be to maintain and indeed raise standards at all levels.

My consultative paper last autumn set out a four-year implementation programme covering most of the subjects in the school curriculum. Several respondents commented that this was too slow. In view of this evidence of enthusiasm to proceed more quickly and in order to minimize the transitional period I have therefore decided to implement the new system in three years rather than four. This will be done by bringing into the third year of the programme all those subjects originally planned for the fourth.

In addition to these changes I have decided to introduce German at all three syllabus levels and to introduce Italian, Russian and Spanish at general and credit levels in the third year.

One important aspect of implementation is the resources available to support the programme. In the consultative paper we stated that the implementation programme and other priority work on staffing could be carried out with overall national staffing about 4 per cent to 5 per cent over the basic levels set out in what is familiarly known as the Red Book.

I remain of the view that staffing at about this level will be sufficient once the implementation programme has been completed. Nevertheless I recognize that there will be an extra burden upon teachers during the transitional period, particularly now that we have speeded up the programme.

Parliament today
Commons (2.30): Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill, second reading. Lords (2.30): Debates on the Criminal Justice Bill, second reading.

Secret three-day conference

Walesa meets underground

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Mr Lech Walesa, the chairman of the banned Solidarity trade union, has held three days of secret talks with fugitive underground leaders to coordinate their strategies. The move, announced in a communiqué yesterday, has considerable symbolic value and shows that Mr Walesa is prepared to take more risks in expressing his criticism of government policies.

According to the brief communiqué read out by his wife on the telephone from Gdansk, Mr Walesa met the underground "provisional coordinating commission" on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, and discussed in detail the country's present situation and coordinated their positions.

Although that does not reveal very much, it is clear that the underground opposition is facing three important events in the coming months: the trial of

KOR dissidents who were Solidarity advisers; the expected protests on May Day and May 3; and the visit to Poland of the Pope in June.

Both Mr Walesa and the underground leaders are agreed that there should be no demonstrations during the Pope's visit - though not all underground Solidarity supporters are willing to accept this - and there is considerable common ground on other issues as well.

But this is the first announced meeting between what might be termed the Solidarity "overground" leadership and the underground. The idea of publicizing it may be to give the underground leadership more authority at a time when it feels increasingly that it is acting in a vacuum, and at the same time make it clear to Poles at large that Mr Walesa's loyalties are still with the banned trade union.

Two symptoms of the discontent that prompted the announcement of the meeting have come in recent days. One is the publication of a long document entitled "Programme and Organization" by a Solidarity radical who writes under the pseudonym of Maciej Poleski.

This raises previously taboo subjects such as the use of force, the need for revolutionary cells and how to exploit the papal visit.

"Democracy should be strong enough to defend itself in case of emergency and not start to think of ways of defending itself at the moment of crisis", Mr Poleski writes in what is a clear challenge to the established underground leaders.

Mr Jerzy Urban, the government spokesman, seemed to suggest at a press conference yesterday that it was not necessarily illegal for Mr

Walesa or any private citizen to meet representatives of an illegal organization. However, if they discussed illegal acts, then Mr Walesa would have committed an offence.

It is not very likely that Mr Walesa will be arrested and he himself is choosing to move step by step along his radical path. Asked whether Mr Walesa had any further plans, his wife said: "Let us wait for further developments." Mr Urban also confirmed that the son of Miss Anna Walentynowicz, the former crane driver and Solidarity activist, recently given a suspended jail term, had been arrested for tearing up a Polish flag. He is now free, awaiting a trial.

Prisoner shot: Guards shot dead a prisoner suspected of armed robbery when he tried to escape from a jail in the eastern Polish city of Luloin, according to official news agency PAP, Reuter reports.



Leaving at last: Maria Chmykhalov, right, stands beside her son Timofei as they are visited by two other members of the family after deciding to return to Siberia.

Pentecostalists prepare to quit embassy

Moscow (AP) - Six religious dissidents who have spent five years in a US embassy haven't been given permission to emigrate were preparing last night to leave the compound, a member of the group said.

The dissidents, members of the Pentecostal faith, believe they will receive exit visas, ending a two-decade battle to get out of the Soviet Union, Lilia Vaschenko, aged 25, told a reporter. They will be returning to their Siberian hometown to file the applications, she said.

Since last Wednesday, when another of their group, Lydia Vaschenko, aged 32, was allowed to leave the country, it

had been expected that the remaining six might also be given permission.

The Pentecostals, five Vaschenkos and two members of another family, dashed past Soviet guards and into the embassy compound in June, 1978, in an attempt to leave what one called an "atheistic system in which we cannot live."

After years of refusing to consider the request of the "Siberian Seven," as they came to be called, the Soviet authorities last month told Lydia Vaschenko to resubmit her application for an emigration permit. She returned to Chernogorsk, Siberia, and did so, and then flew to Austria. She is now in Israel.

The members of the group are Pyotr Vaschenko, aged 55, his wife, Augustina, aged 54, the three young Vaschenko women Lydia, Lubov, aged 30, and Lilia, and Maria Chmykhalov, aged 60, and her son, Timofei, aged 21.

"There is a hope we can emigrate", Lilia Vaschenko said. "We talked with some people and they said there is a good chance because Lydia is out... I hope that the Soviets will finally let us go." She said the people they spoke with were Americans, but she would not

say whether they were embassy officials.

Lubov Vaschenko said last week an American woman, Jane Drake of Montgomery, Alabama, had taken up the family's cause and was meeting her sister Lydia on her arrival in Vienna.

Lilia Vaschenko said yesterday that once they arrive in Chernogorsk they will probably have to wait two to four weeks for the arrival of a required invitation from Lydia to emigrate to Israel. The Vaschenkos are not Jewish, but Israel has been one of the most common destinations for would-be Soviet emigrants.

Rebels step up Afghan onslaught

Islamabad (Reuters) - Afghan rebels are fighting Soviet and Government troops in three provincial capitals, Western diplomats reported yesterday. They said the fighting has seriously disrupted life in Herat, Kandahar and Gazni. Heavy guerrilla sniper fire along main roads had stopped supplies getting in.

The reports coincided with a frank admission over Kabul radio on Monday night that the war waged by Muslim guerrillas since Soviet troops moved in nearly three and a half years ago had badly damaged Afghanistan's economy.

Sultan Ali Kishman, the Prime Minister, said half of all hospitals and schools had been destroyed, road transport was in disarray, three quarters of communication lines were out of action, urgent repair work was needed on power and water supplies, and large investment was needed in agriculture.

He called for stringent economic measures by all government departments and increased efforts to collect taxes to pay for the country's defence.

Western diplomats were surprised by the Prime Minister's picture of the Afghan economy. The Government had previously portrayed a country successfully going about its business despite attacks by people dismissed as criminals or bandits.

The diplomats said the change in strategy might be an attempt to win international support while United Nations-sponsored peace talks are in progress with Pakistan this week at Geneva.

Some diplomats also felt recent successes by guerrillas, including the cutting of highways and the blocking out of the capital, Kabul, might have left President Babrak Karmal's administration no choice but to admit reverses.

Diplomats who have access to information from Kabul said that in the latest fighting the rebels were virtually in complete control of Afghanistan's main western city of Herat, capital of a province which borders Iran and the Soviet Union.

They said that during the day government forces controlled only small areas around the main administrative buildings while at night the city belonged to the guerrillas.

The situation was similar in Kandahar, capital of a province bordering Pakistan. Normal life no longer existed in Kandahar. One report said more than 70 per cent of the population had fled.

GENEVA: About 60 members of the association of Afghans in Switzerland, some in national costume, demonstrated yesterday outside the Palais des Nations in Geneva, where expert discussions on the Afghanistan problem are in progress with delegations from Kabul and Islamabad, Alan McGregor writes.

They handed in an open letter to the United Nations Secretary-General saying the essential precondition for any political solution was the immediate, total and unconditional withdrawal of Soviet troops, as requested by the UN general assembly.

Royal couple in another crush

From Granis Forbes, PA Court Correspondent, Brisbane

The Prince and Princess of Wales were mobbed again yesterday when Queensland police lost control of a crowd of 2,500.

The royal couple made an unscheduled stop at a famous beauty spot, Alexandra Headland, as they drove to Manly, en route to their farm at Woomargama.

Mr Victor Chapman, the Royal couple's press spokesman, said: "As soon as the royal couple stepped out of the car we were swamped by the crowd."

Because the stop was an unscheduled event it was not planned. "There were only the police officers in the motorcade and they just could not cope with the crowds."

Large crowds, which had gathered to see the Prince and Princess when they visited a nut processing plant also engulfed their car as they left to drive away.

The bodyguards became agitated as police seemed unable to control well-wishers, and it took a lot of shouting before a passage could be cleared.

Thorn fear on Britain's EEC refund

From George Clark, Strasbourg

In a speech full of warnings about crises lying ahead for the EEC, Mr Gaston Thorn, president of the European Commission, told the European Parliament yesterday that a refund for Britain to compensate for overpayments on contributions in 1983 could be held up if there was no agreement on the restructuring of Community finances in the long term.

After the March summit meeting in Brussels, it seemed that Mrs Margaret Thatcher had been given a guarantee that, pending the long-term solution, Britain would receive a refund this year.

Mr Thorn told MEPs that the summit had been disappointing. It had produced few tangible results and if there was a repetition at the Stuttgart summit in June the Community would be plunged into a serious crisis. It was essential, he said, that the summit should produce a solution on Community financing, energy policy, enlargement and industrial decline.

Referring to the British budgetary problem Mr Thorn said: "For the Commission it is only in the context of a long-term solution that we can consider the immediate and short-term problems." The Commission would stand by its commitment to the European Parliament on February 8 that it would strive for a long-term revision of the Community's financial structure.

That was why the Commission had not involved itself in the passage in the summit communiqué relating to the subsequent payment, he said.

Commission officials later explained that Mr Thorn wanted to indicate that the Commission would not come forward with a proposition on a refund to Britain this year, until plans for a long-term solution were "on the table".

This view was supported by Mr Adam Ferguson, MEP for Strathclyde West, a spokesman for the Conservative group, who demonstrated how the British attitude to the European Parliament took a "U" turn.

In December last year there was anger among the Conservatives about the Parliament's decision to block the British rebate of £500m for 1982 and Mrs Thatcher also condemned the move.

But since then, both she and the Conservative group have come to realize that Parliament could be Mrs Thatcher's best ally in forcing the Community to revise its financing so that Britain and West Germany do not have to pay unfairly high contributions.

Troops sent to quell fresh Karachi riots

Karachi (Reuters) - Troops were sent to control a fresh outbreak of religious violence in Karachi yesterday, as thousands of Muslim demonstrators burnt shops, houses and cars. Police were unable to control Sunni crowds in the Liaquatabad area, during a confrontation between Sunni and Shia Muslims.

Police earlier fired tear gas to break up a stone-throwing crowd in the predominantly Sunni area, where at least seven people were killed last month in clashes between the sects. The conflict is over ownership of a mosque.

Thirteen people were arrested for attacking policemen and damaging property and arrests were continuing, according to the police. Local residents said

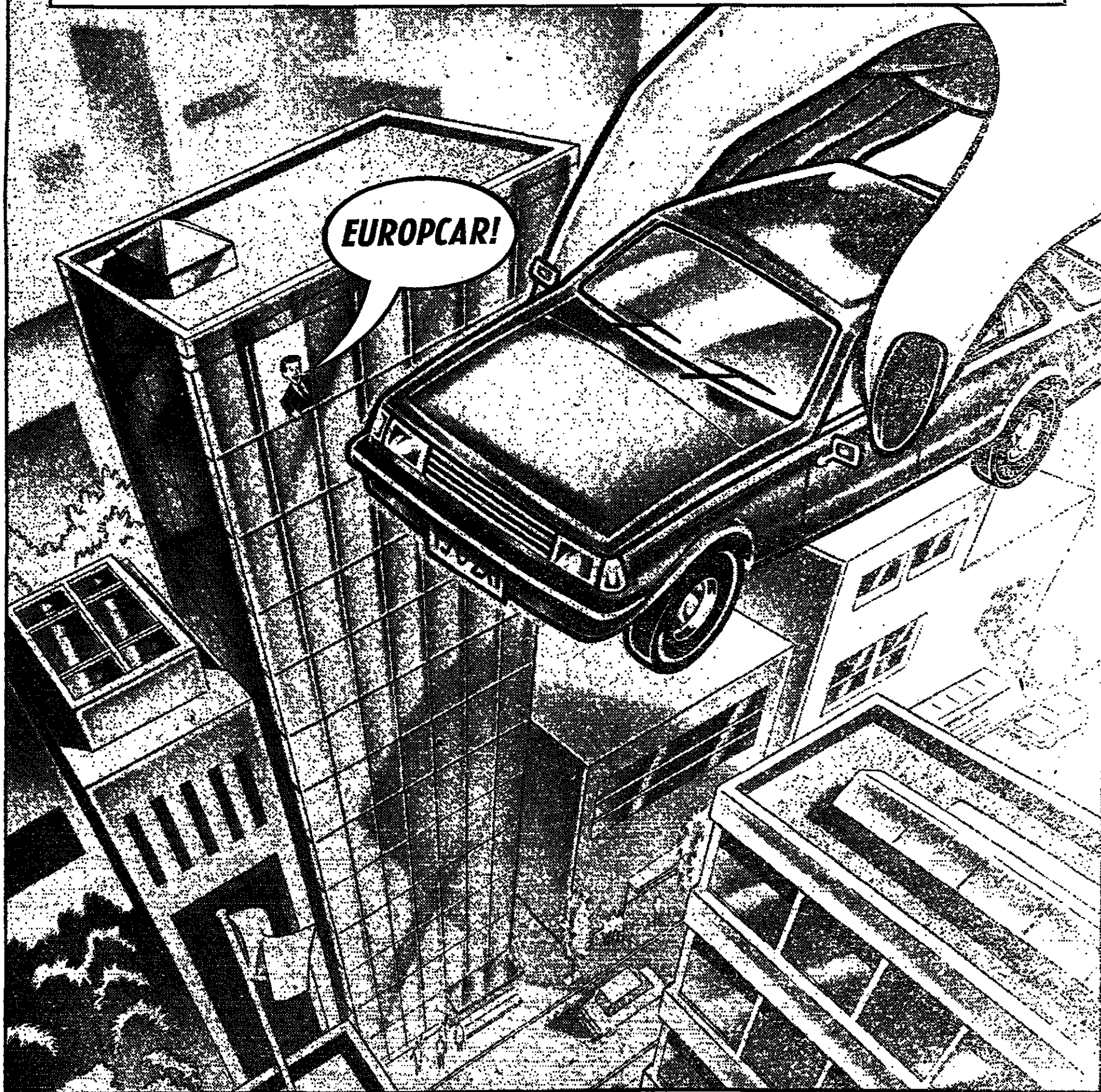
the clashes were set off by the stabbing of a Sunni youth, which the Sunnis blamed on Shias.

About 700,000 people live in Liaquatabad, of whom some 95 per cent are Sunnis, the majority sect in Pakistan.

More than 6,000 people were said to have attacked a Shia meeting place about six miles north-east of Karachi's main shopping centre of Saddar. Another group of about 2,000 attacked a Shia mosque and made a bonfire of its furniture, while smaller groups set fire to shops and houses in the area.

Shia sources said about 30,000 people of their sect had already moved from Liaquatabad to other parts of Karachi after the clashes last month.

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Godfrey Davis

Four-nation peace drive in Central America launched by Colombia

From Geoffrey Matthews, Bogotá

Alarmed by continuing conflict in El Salvador, the danger of all-out war erupting between Honduras and Nicaragua and the intransigence of the United States towards Central America, the foreign ministers of four key Latin American countries embarked yesterday on a peace mission to the region, instigated by President Betancur of Colombia.

The Foreign Ministers of Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico and Panama are due to visit all five Central American republics (Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica) for talks with their counterparts, in an attempt to reduce tension.

The mission was not planned in advance, and was only agreed in Panama City on Sunday night, after Señor Betancur arrived on the final leg of a three-day trip which had also taken him to Venezuela and Mexico for talks on the Central American crisis.

The announcement was made yesterday by Señor Juan José Amado, the Panamanian Foreign Minister, after a long meeting with his colleagues from Venezuela, Colombia and Mexico.

After his discussions with President Luis Herrera Campins of Venezuela, President Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico, President Ricardo de la Espriella of Panama and President Luis Alberto Monge of Costa Rica, who was also visiting Panama at the weekend, Señor Betancur said that the Central American crisis was even worse than he had expected.

He described the situation as "truly explosive", and also hinted that he and his colleagues were becoming increasingly irritated by the Reagan Administration's hardline policy.

Señor Betancur called for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign military advisers from Central America, the suspension of arms sales to the region, respect for the right of its peoples to self-determination, negotiations between the conflicting parties and recognition that the source of the conflict is widespread poverty and social injustice and not super-power politics.

The Colombian President

suggested that what was required to resolve the crisis was the kind of Latin American solidarity which successfully supported Panama's claims to sovereignty over the Panama Canal.

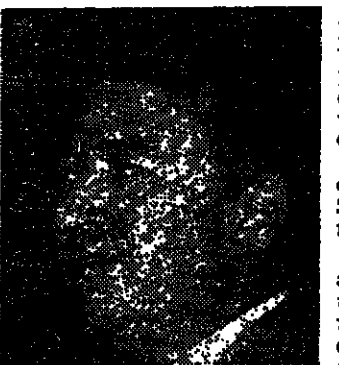
He also hinted that Cuba must be brought into peace talks. "Everything is open, everything is possible. We are seekers of peace in Central America and for that reason we must talk to everyone."

Gabriel García Márquez, the Colombian winner of the 1982 Nobel prize for literature, said on his return to Colombia for his first visit in two years: "Colombia is now assuming the leadership which it should long ago have taken with Mexico, but which only Mexico has exercised in the past."

NEW YORK: Contentions by the Reagan Administration that the Sandinist Government of Nicaragua has hidden behind a smokescreen of national security to install a repressive regime and abolish dissent have been largely repudiated by the United Nations Human Rights Committee, a body of experts which monitors the state of civil and political liberties, Zoriana Pysirivsky writes.

Most individual members of the committee, who serve in their personal capacity rather than as representatives of governments, have described as admirable Nicaragua's performance in the area of human rights, in view of the military challenge to its leadership from right wing rebels and reported American covert operations to destabilize it.

Nevertheless, the Nicaraguan Government has not been



President Betancur: Taking a leading role.

completely exonerated, and concern has been expressed over the plight of the Miskito Indians, after their forced resettlement from the Nicaragua-Honduras border area.

The committee also criticized curbs on the press, cases of police abuse, the reported discrimination against a synagogue and the limited role of political parties.

WASHINGTON: The United States yesterday accused the Government of Nicaragua of repeatedly making clear its "contempt" for real negotiations, and said that the answer to Central America's problems was "democratization and dialogue among neighbours".

Mr Thomas Enders, Assistant Secretary of State, in a prepared statement to the Senate foreign relations committee, said: "The purpose of US policy in the area is to create conditions in which the area can be removed from East-West conflict, the import of offensive weapons and mutual support for insurgencies ended, and the democratic transformation of each society achieved."

Mr Enders was giving testimony after following allegations in the American press that the Administration is giving covert aid to the anti-Sandinist movement operating from bases in Honduras.

Referring to the Nicaraguan opposition, Mr Enders said: "It should be clear to you that it has appeared and expanded in response to deep grievances against the Sandinists. The groups opposing the Sandinist Government were Nicaraguans to the core."

"As long as Nicaragua forces legitimate dissent at home to follow violent means and persists in threatening and destabilizing its neighbours, it will never be stable, nor will Central America."

Mr Enders said that it was conceivable that Cuba or the Soviet Union could be tempted to escalate the conflict.

"Clearly a dangerous situation would then develop, unacceptable not only to Central America but to the American nations as a whole. We have communicated to Moscow and Havana how dangerous such a move would be."

Middle East: Lebanese stalemate; Foreign Secretary meets Husain

I must be governor, Haddad says

From Christopher Walker, Metella

Major Saad Haddad, the temperamental south Lebanese militia commander, whose future has emerged as the main obstacle preventing agreement between Israeli, Lebanese and American negotiators over the withdrawal of Israel's invasion force, threatened yesterday to resist any solution on which he had not been formally consulted.

Despite the flat refusal of the Beirut Government to offer its cashiered officer any position in the new military set-up envisaged for Lebanon, Major Haddad is insisting on the position of "military governor of southern Lebanon".

Stating his terms publicly for the first time, he said: "I see my role as it is now, but it should be legitimized. I am effectively military governor of the south, and that must be made formal. If anyone wants to get rid of me, they will have to get rid of all the people in the south too, because they are behind me."

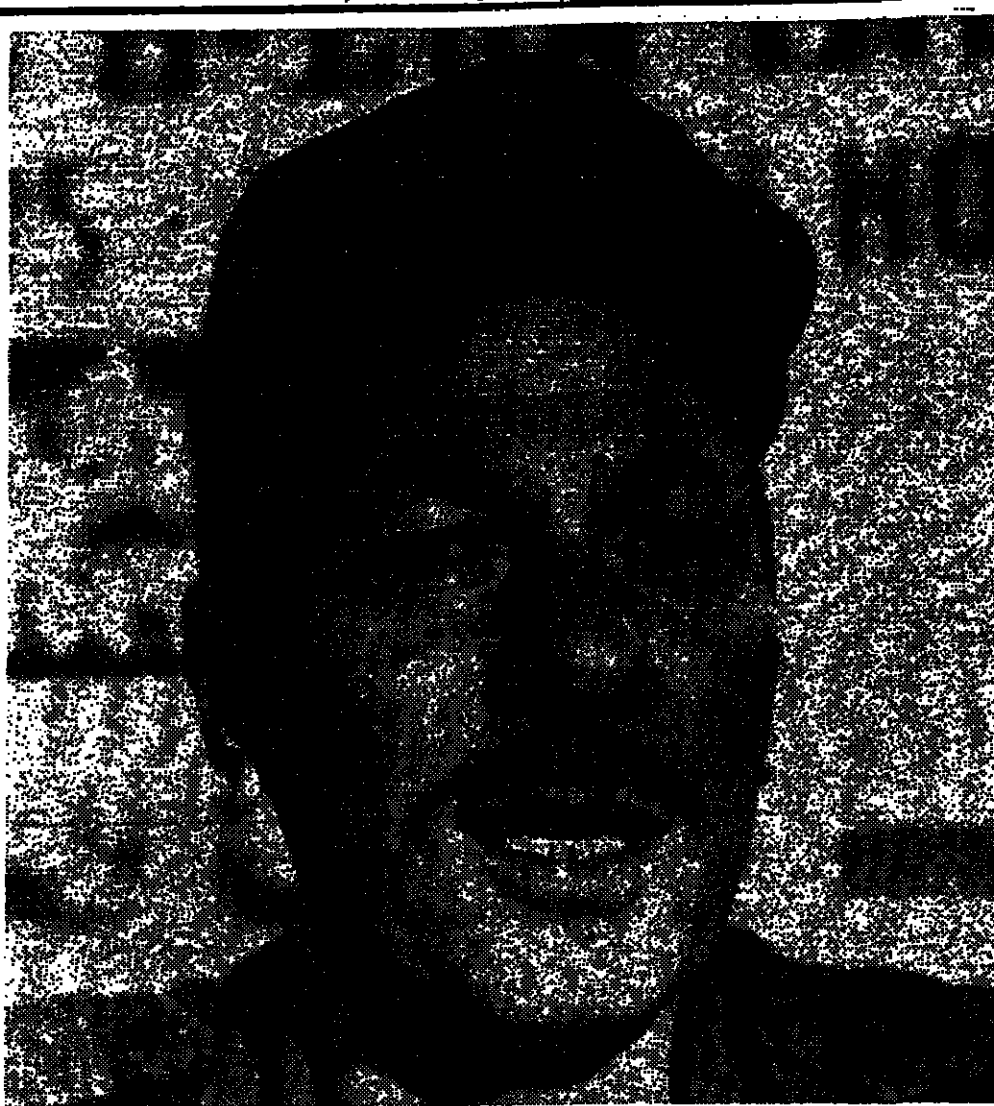
In an interview with *The Times*, he made no attempt to disguise his passion, frustration, anger and anxiety about the possible outcome of the slow moving talks over Lebanon, or about mounting American pressure on Israel to modify its insistence that he be made commander of all Lebanese soldiers based in the 27-mile deep security zone.

According to Washington sources, this pressure reached a new peak last week when Mr William Casey, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, made a clandestine visit to Jerusalem in an apparently vain effort to convince ministers that the revamped Lebanese army is quite capable of preventing Palestinian guerrillas returning to menace Israel.

"I do not know what I have done to upset the Americans because for seven years I have been fighting against leftists and communists," the major told me.

While we were talking in the seamy border hotel which serves as the major's unofficial headquarters in Israel, two Israeli generals suddenly arrived unannounced and engaged him in an animated Hebrew and Arabic conversation.

Their talk and final warm embraces were apparently intended to soothe the major's doubts that he is being ignored as negotiations reach a climax. "I am grateful to Israel for pressing for my future, but you must know that whatever concerns me should be discussed by the Israelis and Lebanese with me personally, and not on my behalf," Major



Major Haddad: "The duty of every Lebanese is to prepare to fight the Syrians."

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Haddad argued, thumping the shabby plastic table with his fist, much to the consternation of the Israeli officer overseeing the meeting.

On Monday, the major held a two-hour conversation with Mr Ariel Sharon, the former Israeli defence minister, - "a very close friend" - who was given a strong message to convey to the Israeli Cabinet when it convenes to finalize its position over security in the zone now often referred to as "Haddadistan".

The brunt of the militia leader's criticism is reserved for the Lebanese administration of President Amin Gemayel, which he claimed has made no effort to contact him formally since the Israeli

invasion expanded his border enclave last summer.

"My people in the south and those up in Beirut have been fighting the same enemies, we have the same contacts and the same ally in Israel, so why are they accepted and we are not?" He complained bitterly.

In the aftermath of last June's invasion, Israeli training and other assistance to the 2,000-strong Haddad militia force have been greatly stepped up.

"I am now taking more steps to increase my military effectiveness because we know that the Syrians are not going to withdraw peacefully," he said. "The duty of every Lebanese today is to prepare himself to fight the Syrians."

Act now, Pym urges Israel and PLO

Amman (Reuters) - Mr Francis Pym the Foreign Secretary said after talks with King Hussein of Jordan last night that there was no feasible alternative to President Reagan's plan as a starting point for the Middle East peace process.

He urged Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to seize the opportunity for peace "which will not recur and will not exist for much longer".

He was speaking at Amman airport after a three-hour stopover arranged after Jordan's announcement on Sunday that it had abandoned five months of talks with the PLO.

Mr Pym arrived in Amman on his way home from visits to Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to hear King Hussein's views about the future of the Reagan plan, which the PLO has rejected in favour of a rival Arab plan.

"The events of the last week did not alter the simple reality that there is no feasible alternative to using the Reagan plan, despite the reservations that many countries feel about it, as the starting point for the peace process," he said.

For five months King Hussein negotiated with Mr Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman, for a common approach to Middle East peace. But on Sunday Jordan said the talks were over because the PLO had gone back on an agreement reached previously.

Jordan, which has been under American pressure to enter into direct talks with Israel, also said it would neither act alone nor by proxy in any peace negotiations.

It said the PLO and the Palestinians were free to follow their own course, but Jordan would continue to support Palestinian living in Israeli-occupied areas.

Mr Pym refused to answer reporters' questions about his working lunch with King Hussein. But his statement said that King Hussein and Jordan were agreed all along that the priorities for the Middle East peace process were the withdrawal of Israeli and other foreign forces from Lebanon, freezing of Jewish settlements in the West Bank and using the Reagan plan as a starting point.

Jerusalem: The tripartite talks between Israel, Lebanon and the United States shifted into higher gear yesterday with Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's special Middle East envoy, taking an active part in the discussions at the Israeli resort of Netanya, Our Correspondent writes.

The Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem would not comment on the reasons for the envoy's participation in the talks, the first time he has done so since these started last December.

There has been some speculation, however, that Mr Habib, who arrived in Israel on Monday, may have been instructed to give added momentum to America's flagging peace moves in the region, after Jordan's decision on Sunday not to join the peace process.

Yesterday's round of talks, the twenty-ninth, ended after only two hours to enable Mr Habib to proceed to Jerusalem for meetings with Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister.

LISBON: The coffin containing the body of Issam Sartawi, the Palestinian leader who was assassinated at a Socialist International conference on Sunday, left Faro airport in Southern Portugal yesterday for Amman, AFP reports.

The body of Mr Sartawi, the personal aide to Mr Arafat, was transported by a Moroccan aircraft. His departure had been delayed because the aircraft had landed without permission, sources said here.

MUNICH: Mr Sartawi was wanted in West Germany in connection with a 1970 guerrilla attack in Munich in which an Israeli was killed, a public prosecutor said yesterday, Reuters reports.

In the Munich attack in February 1970, two Palestinians threw a hand grenade at a bus carrying passengers to an aircraft of the Israeli airline El Al at Riem airport, Munich.

Herr Otto Heindl, the Munich prosecutor, said the men had named Mr Sartawi as the organizer of the attack after being arrested. His office issued a warrant for Mr Sartawi's arrest for suspected murder and 18 counts of attempted murder.

Herr Heindl made clear there was no evidence that Sartawi was linked to the Olympic Games massacre in Munich.

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Teheran claims 5,000 Iraqi soldiers killed

Tehran (AFP) - Fighting intensified yesterday along the southern Iran-Iraq battlefield on the third day of a Iranian thrust that Tehran Radio said had taken the lives of more than 5,000 Iraqi soldiers.

The campaign, which began on Sunday night, was enabled by Iranian forces to regain control of some 60 square miles of Iranian territory, according to communiques issued here, and to "annihilate completely" an Iraqi battalion.

Iraqi military authorities, in a communiqué monitored in Bahrain, gave few details of the latest fighting.

However, a spokesman announced earlier that more than 3,000 Iraqis had been killed since Sunday and that the campaign by Iran had been checked in the Missan sector of the front.

Observers in Bahrain said Baghdad's silence, yesterday indicated that Iran was exerting considerable pressure on Iraqi forces and could suggest that its troops now occupied several hundred square kilometres of Iraqi territory.

Yesterday's clashes took place in the Fakhrah region along the border, about 40 miles east of the Iraqi city of Amarah.

Slap in face ends Corsican's EEC career

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels

A Corsican nationalist has been dismissed from a senior post at the European Commission after stepping the personnel director across the face.

After an appeal through the institution's disciplinary procedure, M Jean-François Ferrandi, an official in the external relations directorate, has been told that he has lost his job from the beginning of next month.

Zhao plea to Hawke

From David Bonavia, Peking

Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, left Peking by air yesterday for visits to Australia and New Zealand. Answering questions at Peking airport Mr Zhao said that he hoped to have an "in depth" exchange of views with Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, on the question of aid to Vietnam, which China

would like other countries to terminate, or never begin.

Referring to the "threat from Vietnam to ASEAN (the Association of South-East Asian Nations)", he said that he believed Australia would not aid Vietnam without first consulting China, the United States and the regional grouping.

Fears for six after attack on yacht

Singapore (Reuters) - A West German-owned yacht with six people on board was set on fire after being fired on near the disputed Spratly Islands in the South China Sea, official sources in Singapore said.

The Sidiarta left Singapore on Saturday with five West Germans, including its co-owner Herr Peter Marx and his Chinese girlfriend to set up an amateur radio link on the Spratlys. Radio contact with the 31ft vessel was lost after it sent a distress message saying it was ablaze after an attack. It did not identify the attackers or give its exact location.

The Spratly Islands are occupied by forces from the Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam. China and Malaysia have also laid claim to the islands, which are believed to have rich offshore oil reserves.

Frenchman set free by Peking

Peking (AFP) - China has released a 49-year-old French-Chinese man who had been held in labour camps since 1955, French sources said here. M Raymond Razillon was freed last month and left for France on Friday.

Born in China of a French father and a Chinese mother, he was detained in Shanghai with other members of the Roman Catholic community during an anti-religious wave.

Napoleon's debt to be repaid

Zurich (Reuters) - President Mitterrand of France has promised to make a "symbolic" repayment of a debt Napoleon incurred with a Swiss mountain village nearly two centuries ago.

The village of Bourg St Pierre wrote to the French Embassy in Bern last week asking how France planned to repay the debt of 45,334 Swiss francs (about £14,000 at today's rates) which Napoleon left behind in 1800 on his way across the Alps to Italy.

Marcos gives his seal of approval

Manila (AFP) - President Marcos and his wife have given their blessings to the controversial marriage of their eldest daughter, Imee, to a divorced basketball coach, Tommy Manotoc, a spokeswoman for Mrs Marcos said here.

Imee, who is 27, gave birth to a boy in Honolulu last Saturday and President Marcos, asked if he was resigned to being called a grandparent, was said to have replied: "More so than the first lady."

Briton stranded

Fears are growing for the safety of David Hempleman-Adams (above), the lone polar explorer. He has been stranded in the Arctic ice by bad weather with just a few days of food remaining. Mr Hempleman-Adams, aged 26, from Bristol, had passed the halfway mark in his attempt to walk solo to the North Pole when the weather deteriorated.

Minister sacked

Singapore (Reuters) - Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Singapore Prime Minister, yesterday dismissed Mr Lim Chwee Ann, Minister without Portfolio, as the country's trade union chief, but kept him in the Government pending reassignment to a ministry.

Ban on Copt

Cairo (Reuters) - An Egyptian court upheld a ban on the Coptic Pope Shenouda. In 1981, the late President Sadat banished the 60-year-old pope to a desert monastery and stripped him of his temporal powers for "fomenting sectarian strife".

Teachers killed

Lima (Reuters) - Three teachers who refused to indoctrinate pupils with left-wing ideology were killed by Maoist guerrillas in Peru's Ayacucho province, a government official said but he did not name the school or town.

Storms kill 41

Dhaka (AFP) - Dhaka newspapers put the death toll in last weekend's hailstorms in Bangladesh at 41. In Dhaka, a young girl hit by a hailstone died in hospital.

Measles deaths

Port Elizabeth (AFP) - Some 100 black and coloured children here have died of measles in the last three months, the Cape Province health authorities announced.

Three defect

Stockholm - Three Polish wrestlers touring with a national team have applied for political asylum in Sweden.

Nkomo 'lost support of companies'

Harare (Reuters, AFP) - Two British companies have withdrawn financial and other support for Mr Joshua Nkomo, the exiled Opposition leader, because he broke a promise to return home last week, the pro-Government *Herald* newspaper reported yesterday.

Mr Nkomo said last week that he would remain in Britain indefinitely, after the publication in Zimbabwe of a Catholic bishops' statement alleging atrocities by government troops in his home province of Matabeleland.

The *Herald* said in a report from London that the firms, which it said had also withdrawn moral and political support, had spent £14,500 on Mr Nkomo and two aides since his flight.

Mr Nkomo, aged 65, fled Zimbabwe early last month, saying that Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, had ordered him to be killed.

The *Herald* report did not identify the companies sponsoring Mr Nkomo in Britain, saying only that they had holdings in Zimbabwe, Zambia, Kenya and other African states. However, it appeared certain that one of them was Lounbo, whose chief executive, Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, is a close friend of Mr Nkomo. The company in London refused to comment. Dunlop has denied that it is the other company.

The company had kept in touch with the Harare Government throughout the affair, the *Herald* said. Mr Nkomo had been told through them that the only actions pending against him in Zimbabwe would be charges of emerald trafficking and the relatively minor charge of currency violations.

Not long ago we were told the price of oil would continue to rise indefinitely. Now banks, heads of state and OPEC members are frantically trying to prevent too drastic a decline. What are the startling implications of this phenomenon?

IF YOU WANT TO SURVIVE THE DOWNWAVE TURN TO PAGE 8

Non-racial unions try to form united front

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Seven independent and non-racial trade union groups have agreed to work for greater unity and to consider forming a new umbrella trade union federation. The decision was taken at a summit meeting of union leaders in Cape Town.

The seven groups represent about 220,000 of the 300,000 or so of the predominantly black members of the new breed of unions that has emerged over the past three years since the South African Government relaxed controls on union activity.

The biggest of the seven union bodies is the federation of South Africa Trade Unions, to which nine individual unions are affiliated and which has slightly over 100,000 signed-up members, mainly in the metal, chemical, textile and car industries.

Mr Jan Theron, general secretary of the African Food and Canning Workers Union, which is also one of the seven, said after the Cape Town meeting: "The time is long overdue for the formation of a new federation which can speak for the workers of this country and tackle the task of properly organizing workers."

Another big black trade union group, the Council of Unions of South Africa, has said it will not be taking part in the unity talks.

Another union standing aloof from the unity talks is the unaffiliated Motor Assembly and Component Workers' Union. The other chief union in the car industry, the National Automobile and Allied Work-

ers' Union, however, is an affiliate of the federation and will be taking part.

Differences over strategy have bedevilled the emerging black trade union movement, in many respects one of the most potent challenges the Government faces. A strike in the Eastern Cape car industry last year, for example, by workers for a 76 per cent increase in minimum hourly pay was weakened by lack of support from the Motor Assembly and Component Workers.

Among the issues dividing unions is the question of whether or not to accept registration and operate within government-approved industrial council bargaining system. Some unions see registration as tantamount to accepting government control, while others have found they can use the system to their advantage.

Some unions - like the Cape-based General Workers' Union - which are not themselves registered feel registration should be a matter for each union to decide, while others, such as the radical South African Allied Workers' Union, have insisted that they will not work with any registered unions.

Last weekend's meeting in Cape Town, attended by several hundred delegates representing virtually the entire independent trade union movement, was the most important move so far towards trying to bridge some of these differences. A "feasibility committee" is to be set up over the next four to six weeks to pursue the idea further.

Lesotho at war with Pretoria, Premier says

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

Chief Leabua Jonathan, the Prime Minister of Lesotho, has urged his 1.3 million compatriots to accept that they are in an effective state of war with South Africa. He called on Basutos to bury their differences so as to enable the Kingdom better to face the onslaught. With all the world on its side, victory was assured.

Speaking in the National Assembly, Chief Jonathan said that the South African offensive was not limited to armed attacks. It was extended to the economy as was shown by what he claimed was a campaign to discourage tourists from coming to Lesotho.

Chief Jonathan also alleged that a situation was being created whereby the movement of goods through South Africa to landlocked Lesotho would become virtually impossible, especially for supplies of military equipment.

Turkey's autumn elections

Thwarting the Byzantine politicians

From Rasit Gurdilek, Ankara

President Kenan Evren, Turkey's military leader, has indicated that he will pit his personal prestige to block any lingering influence by former politicians.

"We shall spare no efforts to foil their Byzantine intrigues," he said, calling on people to do the same and elect "brand new representatives" in general elections which are to be held in the autumn.

General Evren, in speeches at Denizli and Usak, blamed former politicians for failing to rise above their narrow interests.

The President pleaded for the old political labels of Republican and Justice parties not to keep the electorate divided into hostile camps. He also urged students not to allow their political views to foment clashes at the universities, which would be strictly "depoliticized".

The universities have already been purged of academics considered too liberal or radical



General Evren: Personal prestige at stake.

by a 25-man higher education board, most of whose members are appointed by the President and the Government.

In a recent press conference, the board's president, Professor Hasan Dogramaci, admitted that 40 academics were dismissed in recent months on the orders of the martial law authorities and about 200 had resigned.

General Evren refrained in his speeches from giving an exact date for the general elections, nor did he say anything which could be interpreted as a "green light" for resumption of political activities. He said he would speak in more detail only after the legislation for the new political parties and electoral law was completed.

Political observers expect him to campaign actively against the influence of former politicians when the new parties are allowed to form. In his speeches he said that if Turks allowed themselves to be swayed by the former politicians they would be negating the benefits of the military takeover.

The new political parties Bill, introducing restrictions on the organizational structures, activities and finances of the new parties, is awaiting the final seal of approval - probably next week - by the ruling National Security Council.

Depo-Provera: a drug on trial

Jenny Bryan reports on the facts and fears surrounding the controversial contraceptive

The controversial injectable contraceptive Depo-Provera goes "on trial" before a panel of distinguished medical and legal experts in London next week. They will decide whether the drug should be licensed for long-term use in Britain in the face of massive adverse publicity in America, where it has been claimed the drug is dangerous, might be misused and might be given only to poorly educated socially deprived women without their understanding its implications.

The American manufacturers, Upjohn, have fought for a British licence for Depo-Provera, which is at least as effective as the Pill and more reliable than the IUD, cap or sheath, for seven years.

Next week's British hearing has arisen because Kenneth Clarke, the Health Minister, chose as one of his first ministerial actions to overrule the committee on Safety of Medicines which advised him to grant Depo-Provera a full licence for women for whom other methods of contraception were inappropriate. Mr Clarke is believed to have taken his decision because of the risk of women of low social class being given the drug without their informed consent.

One of the hearing's key witnesses will be Dame Josephine Barnes, a former president of the British Medical Association, who will argue that the problems of giving Depo-Provera to women who cannot understand its risks and benefits are no different from those of any drug.

Already, the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and the Family Planning Association have come down in favour of Depo-Provera becoming just another alternative in the choice of contraceptives.

No one is quite sure what will come out of the hearing. No drug licence has ever been refused on the grounds of the agreed procedures. Kenneth Clarke has already overruled his medical advisors once - he could, in theory, overrule the independent panel's recommendations too.

Upjohn does not stand to make a lot of money out of Depo-Provera in Britain. Around two million women get the Pill from their GP - at a cost of about £13.5m. According to Dame Josephine, several thousand women who would probably get Depo-Provera if it were fully licensed. But a positive decision from the British authorities would help Upjohn to sell the drug in other areas - such as developing countries - where the market is much larger.

In its 400-page written evidence to the panel, the Coordinating Group on Depo-Provera, composed of women actively involved in women's health issues, has drawn on information it has received about more than 100 women who felt they were not fully informed of the possible side effects of Depo-Provera.

Many were women with a poor understanding of English for whom no provision had been made for information to be given in their own language.

Six out of seven women who answered an appeal for women who felt they had been mistreated in one London health district were black and several were young unmarried mothers.

Three years ago one professional singer got an out of court settlement of £3,750 from King's College Hospital, London, because her career was disrupted as a result of side effects from Depo-Provera which had not been fully explained to her.

The drug has been used most widely in developing countries where there have been many reports especially from Africa and Asia of women given the drug without their fully informed consent and of doctors exceeding their own countries' recommendations of its use.

There was even a report of women in a Cambodian refugee camp being given the drug with the promise of extra food. Even so, the drug is used as part of WHO and International Planned Parenthood Federation contraception programmes.

At present several health authorities including America and Canada are considering whether to license Depo-Provera, after lengthy debate on the medical and social implications. In the past, the US has refused to license the drug for even short term use.

The Coordinating Group on Depo-Provera - the main pressure group against the drug - will not be allowed to give verbal evidence at the hearing. But its comprehensive written evidence would do justice to an organ with much greater resources at its disposal.

Much of the evidence rests on the known side effects of the drug but also raised doubts about the largely unknown long term effects of continued use of Depo-Provera. The group argues that if Depo-Provera is to come on the market at all its use should be limited and controlled so that the terms of the drug's licence are not exceeded.

Upjohn's expert witnesses - a list of whom reads like a Who's Who of obstetrics and pharmacology - will give verbal evidence.

The hearing will be held in the conference suite, Riverwalk House, Millbank, London, SW1, starting on Monday, April 25, 1983 at 10am. On the panel will be Professor Rosalinde Hurley, chairwoman of the Medicines Commission at the DHSS, Professor A. Ascher, also a member of the Medicines Commission, Ian Kennedy, director of the Centre of Law, Medicine and Ethics at King's College, London, Professor H. Jacobs, consultant gynaecologist and Professor F. A. Langley.



Third World population control: Depo-Provera is given to a young woman in Thailand

The benefits and side-effects

Depo-Provera is a synthetic form of one of the body's natural hormones, progesterone. Each injection prevents pregnancy for at least three months by stopping a woman's eggs developing and by making her womb hostile to any fertilized egg which might creep through.

Since 1978 Depo-Provera has been used in Britain for short-term contraception, which means one, or at most two, injections. Doctors can, and often do, exert their "clinical judgment" and give Depo-Provera for longer periods - for years, rather than months.

There is evidence that Depo-Provera has been misused - given to socially disadvantaged women without full counselling about the drug and its side effects. Its very nature makes it an ideal drug for women who find it impossible to remember to take the pill or use other forms of contraception. A few doctors are thought to have taken it upon themselves to inject such women - often after an abortion or an unwanted child - without explaining the full implications of the drug.

Depo-Provera often prevents a woman from having her normal period. This in itself worries women given insufficient counselling since they think they may be pregnant when their periods stop. In the first months or even up to a year after taking the drug she will have some unpredictable bleeding. Before the injection is given there is no way of knowing whether this will be mild or severe.

Once the injection is given there is

no turning back - for the first months the woman must simply "grin and bear it" if she is one of the unfortunate minority who bleeds severely.

Depo-Provera does not cause permanent infertility but women may be slow to conceive after they stop the drug, so it is better kept for women not planning further children. It is often these older women who have a narrow choice of contraceptive methods because their weight, blood pressure or smoking puts them at risk of heart problems if they take the pill.

An enthusiastic supporter of Depo-Provera is Dr John Tyllieskär, of the department of obstetrics and gynaecology at the general hospital in Motala, southern Sweden, and also runs his own practice. He believes Depo-Provera is the best contraceptive for women over 35 who do not want more children, and half of his patients in that category use the drug. Motala is a provincial town with a population of about 30,000 and is far removed from the poor inner cities of Britain when Depo-Provera achieved its controversial status. More than 400 Motala women use the drug, a proportion at least 20 times greater than in the rest of Sweden.

Dr Tyllieskär recently surveyed 182 women who first had Depo-Provera in the early 1970s. Some had had a single injection, others had stayed on the drug for 12 years. Four out of five liked the drug, but 22 per cent had stopped it because of side effects. The most common of

these were irregular bleeding, weight gain, decreased sex drive and depression.

Since most women who stopped treatment did so within a year of starting Depo-Provera, the survey supported the view that, provided women can cope with the bleeding irregularities in the first months, they generally use the contraceptive for several years.

And what of the benefits? Forty-five per cent of the women in the survey said that not having periods was an advantage, as was the simplicity and reliability of the method.

One woman I spoke to at Dr Tyllieskär's clinic, started having Depo-Provera nine years ago after suffering a thrombosis that made it impossible to continue with the Pill. She experienced some bleeding in the early months, but it was not bad enough to make her stop the treatment. A bonus was the disappearance of eczema and migraine from which she had previously suffered.

Two other women had started Depo-Provera because of the risk of circulatory problems with the Pill. One had high blood pressure, the other a family history of heart problems.

The eldest patient Dr Tyllieskär had had on the drug was 54. Since there is a tentative theory that Depo-Provera may have a role in protecting women from breast cancer, the doctor believes women should continue to use it even after the menopause.

PENNY PERRICK'S DIARY

Transport of delight across the Irish Sea

Conemara Ireland begins at Liverpool, or at least on the B & I (British and Irish) car ferry which nightly crosses the Irish Sea. For years, I used to spend the night on board in a bunk which throbbed with vibrations from the adjoining engine room, or, worse, wriggling on a recliner seat in a lounge awash in stale Guinness. Then I married a man who'd endured a spartan upbringing in a Methodist parsonage in Cornwall. To shake off the effects of this gloom start in life, he became an incomparable sybarite. Within minutes of boarding the boat, he discovered a row of boatdeck cabins reserved for the gentry. Now we travel in style in what looks like a miniature Ideal Home Exhibition stand, all bright primrose and fitted carpets. It's a ladylike way to cross the sea, but I raise the night below deck, full of nuns clutching armfuls of duty-free Bailey's Irish Cream and men who look as if they could tell you what really happened to Shergar, had they a mind to.

organization called Women in the Home, says that you cannot expect Irish women to act like their starker European counterparts - having careers and husbands who can rustle up an excellent blanquette de veau - until traditional housing arrangements are drastically altered and Ireland is peppered with easy-care apartments instead of hard-core houses. She's right. The Irish women I know spend whole chunks of their lives in sagging cardigans and mud-spattered wellies, peering out an endless line of washing, carrying buckets of turf to the fire and cooking on primitive stoves. By the time their last child is grown, it's time for them to be caring for their first grandchild. Sometimes, when the rain wets their nearly dry washing and their stove smokes, I pity them but not, I suspect, as often as they pity me.

In Conemara, where the only studied glances that come my way are from the cows, I go through a transformation - hair cuts, eyes glow, spots vanish. Back in London, subject to heavy scrutiny, the process is reversed - hair hangs from my scalp like a dead mouse, eyes water, skin eruptions, like a magazine beauty makeover feature run backwards. This is unfortunate since my first London appointment calls for a certain amount of personal glossiness. It's at the Marks & Spencer headquarters, where I have been called upon to explain some disparaging remarks about their tights that I made on this page some weeks ago.

I am led down many stately corridors and then through an impressive wooden door marked "Ladies Underwear". Inside is a lady's boudoir in a rooming house, a pale blue bra from the autumn collection weaves her way around the desks at which sit pin-striped men and frilly-bosomed women. None is distracted. Nor do they look up when I set one of M & S's brand new lines, introduced by popular demand - a double D slide bra. Good grief, each cup would hold a whole turkey. My own physical problems seem puny indeed.

Funer still when M & S decide that the ill-fit of their tights is not because of any abnormality on the part of my legs. Graciously, they promise to let me test-run future samples hot off the production line and, gratefully, I scamper from St Michael House, before they decide to drag me off to their laboratories to check me for spillage, shrinkage and loss of colour.

Tomorrow

Modern Times meets the night people - those who work while others sleep.

IN 1928 THEY SAID A DEPRESSION COULD NOT HAPPEN. CAN YOU BELIEVE THOSE SAME VOICES IN 1983 ...

THE DOWNWAVE

ROBERT BECKMAN

Over the last few years we've been told, again and again, that the road to economic recovery is just round the corner. Is it? Dare you continue to believe the so-called experts whose predictions have been so consistently proved wrong?

Robert Beckman believes you should not. Since 1979 his has been the lone voice warning that there is no meaningful proof whatsoever to support forecasts of economic recovery.

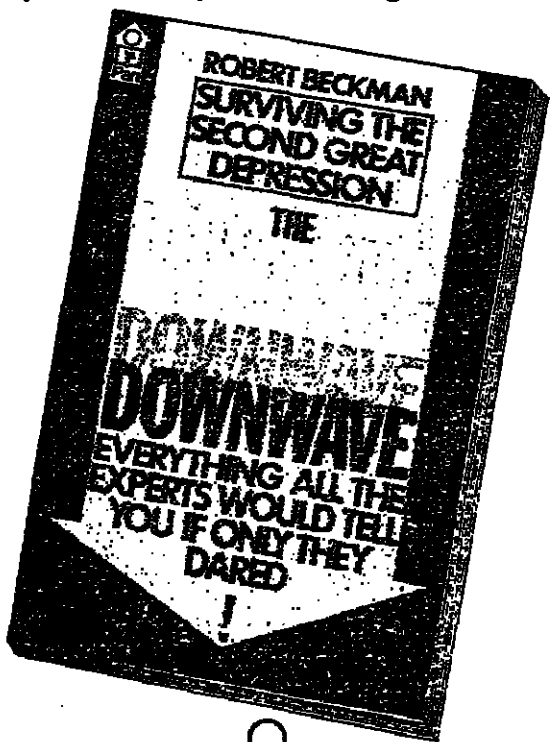
Now, in *The Downwave*, he spells it out with devastating frankness in a no-holds-barred guide to the upheaval that lies ahead. And he backs it all up with incontrovertible evidence, not all of it economic.

His message is simple but positive. You can survive the recession by using it. There are steps the man in the street can take to secure the future. There are opportunities that will never again occur in our lifetime. Beckman shows you the way.

His advice is backed by a successful track record of financial forecasting. Over the

years Beckman has put his money where his mouth is and successfully demonstrated to many investors and members of the public how to stay one jump ahead. This advice is now offered to you in *The Downwave*.

The Downwave by Robert Beckman is everything the experts would tell you if only they dared. Can you afford to ignore it?



Pan Books

The solution to the great blue trout mystery

THE TIMES COOK



Shona Crawford Poole

Blue trout
Serves two
2 very fresh trout
450ml (1½ pint) fish stock or water
150ml (½ pint) dry white wine, or 4 tablespoons white vinegar or fresh lemon juice
1 shallot or small onion, finely chopped
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Gut the fish but do not wash them. Wipe their tails, that is, trim them to points, if you like, and cut off the fins. Or you may prefer to leave the tails as they are on the grounds that the naturally rounded shape echoes the blunt nose and over all design of the fish.

Combine the fish stock or water with the wine, vinegar or lemon juice, onion or shallot and salt and pepper, in a shallow pan and bring the liquid to the boil. Reduce the heat to a simmer and lay the fish in the simmering stock. Cook it very gently for 10 minutes. Rather than risk spoiling the skin by turning the fish, baste them with the poaching liquid and cook covered.

Drain the trout very well and serve them with melted butter or hollandaise sauce, and new potatoes.

In Wales and in the Pyrenees trout are cooked with bacon. In the French version of the recipe the pan is deglazed with a little vinegar after the fish have been fried to make an excellent, instant, sauce.

Trout with bacon
Serves four
4 plump trout
225g (8 oz) smoked bacon, lean and fat

30g (1 oz) butter
4 tablespoons seasoned flour
1 clove garlic, finely chopped
2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
2 tablespoons chopped chives or parsley to garnish

Gut the fish, cut off the fins and wash and dry them.

Cut the bacon in dice or narrow strips and put them in a cold frying pan. Heat slowly and steadily until the fat runs and the bacon is cooked and beginning to crisp. Then add the butter.

Coat the fish with the seasoned flour and add them to pan. Cook them for about five minutes on each side, turning carefully only once. Lift the fish from the pan and arrange them on a warm serving dish. Drain the bacon and sprinkle it over the fish. Keep warm.

Fry the garlic briefly in the fat remaining in the pan. Remove the pan from the heat and stir in the vinegar. Pour the sauce immediately over the fish and serve with a sprinkling of chopped chives or parsley and plainly boiled new or old potatoes.

Nuts and trout are another well tried combination. Usually sliced almonds or hazel nuts are fried golden brown in butter after the fish has been sautéed and the nuts then sprinkled over the fish. But the nuts can also be used to coat the fish before baking them.

Baked trout with almonds
Serves four
4 plump trout
55g (2 oz) butter, melted
110g (4 oz) almonds, very finely chopped or coarsely ground
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
1 lemon

Gut the fish, cut off the fins and wash and dry them. Paint the fish with melted butter and coat them in the chopped or ground almonds. Season them lightly and lay them in one layer in a well buttered baking dish. Spoon any remaining melted butter over them.

Cook the trout in a preheated moderate oven (180°C/350°F gas mark 4) for about 20 minutes. Serve immediately from the baking dish with a freshly cut wedge of lemon to squeeze over them.

TALKBACK

Delius unsullied

From J. R. Heron, Consultant Neurologist, North Staffordshire Hospital Centre, Hartshill, Stoke-on-Trent. Dr Thomas Sutcliffe (Medical Briefing, March 18) quotes from Professor Southall who was shown Sir John Coneybear's case notes, indicating that the negative blood WR test for syphilis - the absence of involvement of the dorsal columns of the spinal cord, the absence of dementia and Sir John's own expert opinion - are all strong evidence that Delius's final illness was not due to syphilis.

A further indication that this illness was not due to acquired syphilis is that his father was known to have suffered from a similar disease, years previously.

In the nineteenth century and early twentieth century relatively obscure hereditary or sporadic spinocerebellar degenerations and demyelinating diseases of the central nervous system, of unknown aetiology, were not uncommonly and understandably, wrongly diagnosed as being due to syphilis.

A careful appraisal of Sir John Coneybear's case notes on Delius would certainly offer the best, and only satisfactory evidence on which to base a final and informed conclusion.

DIY cures

From Daniele Ryman, Director, Marguerite Maury, Aromatherapy, Park Lane Hotel, Piccadilly, W1. Like Dr Linda A. Anderson and Dr J. D. Philpotts (Letters March 26), I read the Modern Times column "Turning to the quack" (March 24) with concern. What I particularly find alarming is the implication of self-prescription. I have come across several cases where the essential oils from sage and rosemary can, through the wrong dosage, cause epileptic fits. Another example is the essential oil of camphor, in particular the cheap variety from Japan, which can be toxic. This is recommended for colds and coughs.

What I would therefore suggest is that these natural remedies be administered by experienced practitioners. A list of these can be obtained from the Institute of Complementary Medicine, 21 Portland Place, London W1.

SPECTRUM

The British festival opening in New York today is reviving the enthusiasm of the Beatle era

British arts bite into the Apple

By Christopher Thomas

Even New York is dazzled by it all. The greatest outpouring of British culture ever to go abroad is spending the hot, steaming summer in America's greatest city in a fabulous display of art, dance, theatre, music and sport. There are Constable, Moore, Holbein, the Royal Shakespeare Company, the London Symphony Orchestra and the Royal Ballet. There are Highland games in Central Park and an old boy's Oxford and Cambridge boat race down the East River. Double-decker London buses are plying the crumbling streets of Manhattan, the Chelsea Flower Show has been magically recreated, and 1,000 rich Welsh voices will echo around Madison Square Garden. Somehow the festival title, "Britain Salutes New York", seems like an understatement.

The whole huge extravaganza was conceived in an airliner 25,000 feet above the Atlantic, where David Lloyd-Jacob was thinking about the little hiccup in Anglo-American relations that occurred 200 years ago. Like so many successful New York businessmen and corporate bosses, he is British; it seemed to him, in his musings, that America should be reassured that there were no hard feelings about the revolutionary war.

And so it all began. The corporate giants began falling over themselves to get involved, to sponsor something, to act as a host, to lend their names. If one is anybody in New York this summer, one simply must get invited to a British bash. Britain is not so much saluting New York as taking it over for the summer and on into the autumn.

It starts officially today with a black-tie reception at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, an appropriate setting for the greatest foreign cultural and arts festival ever staged in the United States. The schedule of events for the next few days gives an idea of the scale of things: by the end of the weekend more than 20 exhibitions of aspects of Britain past and present - just a selection of those that will eventually get under way - will have opened and the social calendar for every day this week is, to say the least, exotic.

A random selection of exhibits gives the flavour: the Guggenheim Museum will stage an exhibition focusing on British art from 1930 to the present, featuring works from Francis Bacon, Ben Nicholson, Henry Moore, Richard Hamilton and others.

More than 3,000 London Transport posters dating from 1908 will be on display, as will some exceptional English silver drawn from the Victoria and Albert Museum, the National Trust and private collections. British artists living in New York - Richard Ballard, Sue Coe, Garth Evans, Richard Kidd, Graham Nickson and Hugh O'Donnell - will be exhibiting.

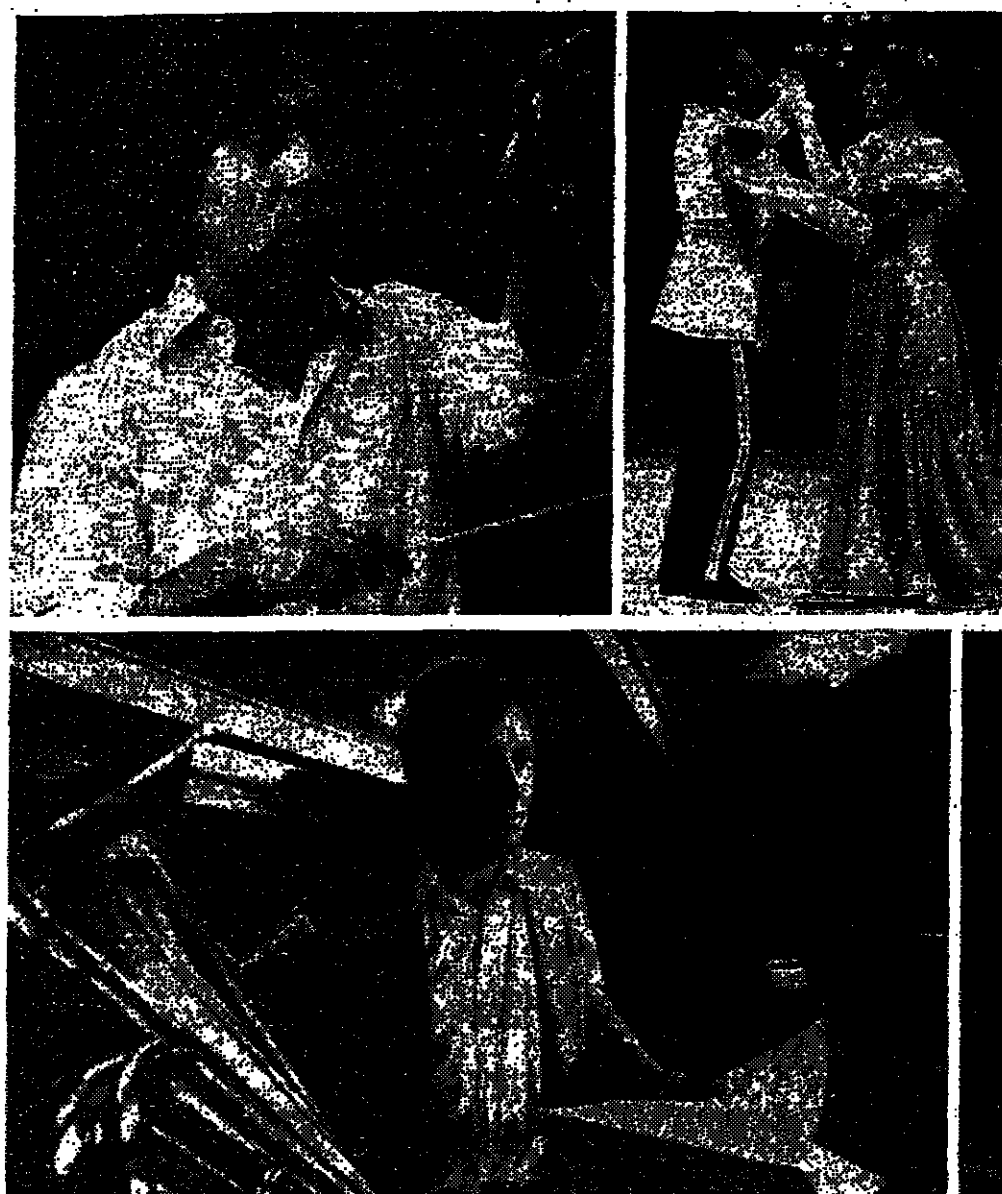


Perhaps the most spectacular event to open in the next couple of days, however, is one entitled "Constable's England", the first major exhibition of John Constable's work in America in more than 30 years. It consists of 64 paintings and sketches from lenders in the US and Britain, reflecting the full spectrum of his output.

"Holbein and the Court of St James's", which opens next week, is an exhibition of 70 drawings and one painted miniature by Hans Holbein the Younger, on loan from the Queen's collection in Windsor Castle and undoubtedly the greatest collection of Holbein drawings in the world.

Another exhibition features "The Best in British Graphic Art and Photography", while the festival's eclectic nature will be indicated by a display, at the American Museum of Natural History, of the types of plants that Captain Cook took home from his voyage of botanical exploration between 1768 and 1771.

But there are more than just mainline attractions. Winston Churchill will be honoured with the first one-man show of his paintings in America, there will be a display of contemporary jewelry by leading designers, and a



Participants in the British salute to New York during the coming months include Claudio Abbado (above left), conducting the London Symphony Orchestra; Harriet Walter and John Franklyn-Robbins (above centre) as Helena and the King of France in the Royal Shakespeare Company's *All's Well that Ends Well*; Sir Hugh Casson (above right), the festival's artistic director; the jazz composer Mike Westbrook (below left), whose Brass Band will re-export the music to the country of its birth; and the members of the Royal Ballet, whose repertoire on tour will include *Dances of Albion*.

collection of brass rubbings will be on display.

Mike Westbrook, possibly the most prominent British jazz composer, will be in town with his six-piece brass band, playing his settings of William Blake, and in the theatre the range is enormous, including performances in halls and hotels by the Black Theatre Cooperative, the Brighton Theatre Company, The Eye and Ear Theatre, the Moving Picture Mime Show and many others.

So it goes on, something like 200 events in the entertainment halls and museums of America's cultural capital. So great is the quantity on offer, and so rich its quality, that the undertaking seems almost arrogant: one really should not be so bold in somebody else's house, even though the hosts seem not to mind a bit.

Further into this dazzling catalogue of culture, there will be a major retrospective of Henry Moore, consisting of some giant bronze sculptures as well as smaller works. Transporting that lot has cost Goult Inc, an electronics business, the best part of \$800,000, the biggest single contribution of the festival.

As a whole, the jamboree is costing something between \$3m and \$4m, not a penny of which has come from the taxpayers of America or Britain. Capitalism, the guiding spirit of New York, is footing the entire bill.

David Lloyd-Jacob is the retired chairman of the Amcon Group Inc, a British mining equipment company that has had its headquarters in New York since 1907. He spent a long time thinking about the prospects for an arts festival during his many trips across

the Atlantic. "Our two countries have a co-conspirator relationship in so many fields, especially culture," he said. "Our common heritage and language and our strong business ties are nowhere stronger than in New York City."

The torrent of American publicity has been sudden and heady. There have been huge spreads in the newspapers and magazines; not since the Beatles arrived in 1964, perhaps, has it seemed so interesting and appropriate to be British in New York. It is one of the peculiarities of the British here that they do not have a community like other ethnic groups; lately, though, they have been inspected, assessed and labelled, photographed and quoted at extraordinary length.

Some of this coverage has been amusing and highly memorable. John Richardson, sprawling in his chair, sofa and smiling out of the glossy pages of *New York* magazine, took time off writing his book about Picasso to venture his opinion about New York: "Old money meets new money here. Jews meet Gentiles, hicks meet sophisticates. The English always tend to end up the extra man."

There was also the Earl Jermyn, who spends as much time in New York as in England, who is permitted to a registered residence of Nassau and Mont Carlo and who was described as "dandified - a coronet stickpin adorns his tie." He had much to say about a subject with which he should be highly familiar: "The naivety of the English aristocracy is incredible. They take advice from the old family lawyer who is interested in keeping things as they always were. They have

no spending power, they're land heavy, and in the end they go broke."

Edwina Sandys, appearing under the headline "We Happy Few", a profile of 11 New York Brits, ventured: "English people who come here all want to achieve things. It's like Dick Whittington - streets paved with gold." She is heavily involved in organizing the festival: two telephones ring remorselessly in her Manhattan apartment, where her own spectacular works look down from a high wall on to a chaotic but friendly scene. One of the first official functions of the festival was that night - a reception at the Algonquin, the most British hotel in New York as well as the one enjoying the closest links with the worlds of literature and the arts. Entertainment was supplied by Millicent Martin. There will be a lot more of that sort of thing in the coming months.



Aside from all the culture, there is a sporting side to the festival, notably the Highland games in Central Park on May 14-15 and the Oxford-Cambridge boat race on May 8. All participants in the latter event are Blues, all but one are based in New York, and a good many of them are getting on a bit. Donald Mackay, who did his bit for Oxford in 1947, is the oldest among them; the youngest is Richard Cassin, who was in the Cambridge eight in 1976. Watney's, the sponsors, are con-

sidering whether to make it an annual event now they have discovered that there are so many Blues in New York who seem to enjoy reliving the experience of slogging up a highly tidal river.

Organising the event has, at times, evidently been an agonizing process. One early complication occurred when the Central Park authorities got cold feet over plans for a pop concert. Then the featured group, Queen, received a lucrative offer from elsewhere and took off to the bank. There will, however, be a rock concert at Madison Square Garden on April 25, although the star attraction has yet to be nominated.

The names connected with the event are weighty indeed, starting at the top: the festival's patrons are Prince Charles and Nancy Reagan. Inevitably, there is excited speculation around town about a visit from the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Fuelling the gossip, the Prince has put his signature to a full-page message in a glossy magazine supplement in the *New York Times*, wherein he gives no hints of any plans to come to the ballet but does make mention of a distant relative: "It is more than 300 years since the 30-year-old brother of King Charles II took possession of the city, which he promptly renamed, with no great modesty, after himself."

Modesty has no part in this festival. Britain is showing off, bragging with all its might in a great display of resources from the past and of the present. It is amusing that we continue to insist that it is we who are saluting them. It begins to look rather like the other way around.

Steve Lohr reports on the rising level of violence within a high-pressure education system

Japan's blackboard jungle

Tokyo Japanese schools have traditionally been hells of order and decorum, and the students - boys garbed in black military-style jackets and girls in sailor suit uniforms - models of dedication and obedience. But a series of violent incidents involving teenagers has prompted the Education Ministry to establish a task force to study the problem and to recommend corrective measures.

In addition, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone has promised that finding ways to deal with violence in schools will be one of the priorities of his Cabinet. But neither the Prime Minister nor the Education Ministry has indicated what actions might be taken.

Since late January there have been more than a dozen cases of violence by students, both

inside and outside the classroom, that were widely reported in the Japanese press, which carried references to the blackboard jungle.

Though the number of cases was small, the cruelty of some of the young people involved made them the subject of national attention and concern.

For example, in early February a gang of teenage boys beat up a number of vagrants in Yokohama, in an incident described as a sadistic orgy by the English-language *Japan Times*. Three of the victims died from their injuries.

In another case, a 14-year-old

girl in a school in Kisarazu, a city near Tokyo, was beaten with a bamboo sword for three hours by a dozen of her classmates. The assailants came from affluent families and had no previous records of delinquency.

At a Tokyo junior high school, four boys ganged up on one of their 14-year-old classmates and physically abused him. In another case, a physically handicapped teacher in Tokyo stabbed a student with a fruit knife, after being harassed and attacked for weeks by a group of boys.

In Japan, a culturally and ethnically homogeneous nation with the most equitable distribution of income among the major industrialized countries, juvenile delinquency is still much less prevalent than, say, in Britain or the United States.

Yet school violence has increased sharply in recent years. Teachers say the problem first emerged about 10 years ago and has worsened steadily.

According to the National Police Agency, violent incidents involving junior and senior high school students on school premises totalled 1,961 last year, or 60 per cent more than the number three years earlier. There were 8,904 victims and 4,267 assailants, mostly students aged 14 and 15.

The police agency also reported that the number of cases of violence by junior and senior high school students against teachers reached 843 last year, four and a half times the number in 1978, when the police began counting such cases.

The numbers are tiny considering there are 10 million students in 16,000 junior and senior high schools throughout Japan. However, the reported cases are said to be only an indication of the overall problem, since most lesser incidents go unreported rather than ruining a young person's record. The recent wave of violence came during the entrance

examination season, which has just ended, when the anxiety created by Japan's uniform, highly competitive education system reaches its peak. With the end of the testing period in mid-March, the trouble subsided.

The high-pressure, cramming education is one of the biggest reasons for school violence, said Michio Nagai, a former Education Minister and a professor of educational sociology at Sophia University. "There's no question about it."

Of the recent incidents, Takuji Kimura, a 16-year-old high school student in Tokyo, said: "I was not surprised. I and many others share a sense of frustration with the system and for teachers. But the majority of us would never do violent things because it would ruin one's future."

Even on good students like Kimura, the pressure takes its toll. "About three months before my entrance examination for high school," he recalled, "I started to get a stomach ache whenever I came across a question I could not solve."

The trouble has prompted public criticism of the weak points of the Japanese education system, a system often praised for its strengths.

These strengths are considerable. The centralized, lock-step approach has high standards in such basic skills as mathematics, language and engineering. The resulting high literacy rate and technical competence of its population receives much of the credit for Japan's ability to have achieved high economic growth since the Second World War.

Nor is the education system alone blamed for the recent school violence. Teachers note that Japan's rising postwar affluence and urbanization have brought with them a steady, if slow by western standards, breakdown of traditional family values and the discipline of children. Today's children, increasingly influenced by the

individualistic values of the west, are thus more likely to rebel against a system of uniform education that stresses learning by rote, education officials say.

In the Japanese system, the personal costs for the students in terms of pressure, anxiety and childhoods with limited play seem high. The entrance examinations for high school and then college are all important. The competition to prepare for the tests has become increasingly intense in recent years. With fewer children and higher incomes, more families can afford to send their offspring to the night schools that students attend after their regular classes to cram for exams.

Regardless of test scores, all students attend some high school and most can get into some university. Yet in Japan's ordered society, one's educational pedigree marks an individual for life, determining his job and social status to a far greater degree than in the United States.

Most parents are saturated with the idea that to go to a first-rank university leads to a job in a big company and that leads to a happy life, said Tamiko Kikuchi, a Yokohama woman with a child in the third grade. "I started to get a stomach ache whenever I came across a question I could not solve."

Equally solemnly, there will be a procession to the Tomb of the Unknown Composer, who is responsible for so much of Radio 3's output. Wreaths will be laid by the Baroque Society, the Friends of French Opera, the Society for the Preservation of Rural English Songwriters and CAMRA (the Campaign for Rare Ale). There will then be a performance of the song-cycle "On Warlock Edge" and six concerti grossi by Gagliardi. They will then be played again at the right speed.

But the accent will be on fun as well, and the team who produce the puzzles and riddles that now occupy so much of the *Radio Times* will be on show in the busking area in Covent Garden, where they will give a

WINTEROVER... Miles Kington



This week sees the reappearance of the *Radio Times*, after an absence bravely borne, and the BBC has declared tomorrow a day of national rejoicing.

There will, of course, be a service of thanksgiving in St Paul's Cathedral, attended by all 92 BBC governors (or those that have survived the absence of the *Radio Times*), and broadcast live on Radio 4 and BBC2 (see daily newspapers and *Time Out* for full details). It is hoped that the Queen will be able to attend; if not, her place will be taken by the Assistant Head of Religious and Monarchic Outside Broadcasts, or Quency for short.

At St John's-in-the-Red there will be a pulp debate which should arouse a lot of public interest, between the editor of the *Radio Times* and a senior producer at BBC-TV. The text of this public discussion will be "How on earth, by all that is holy, is it possible to commission four pages of feature writing on a new series and not mention the programme once, only the private life of the actors concerned?" No-one expects to hear an answer to this perennial problem in our lifetime, but the debate should be lively.

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display of sensational anagrams and brain-teasers, culminating in a march-past by the BBC's own house-trained pallidromes and a parachute descent by Roger Woddis, who will compose a new verse for the occasion as he falls.

The ever-popular *Radio Times* letters unit will put on a demonstration in Hyde Park (not Wales, Scotland or the regions) of dismantling a programme and putting it together again in one and a half minutes as the viewers would like it. Members of the public will also be able to put their complaints to the Deputy Head of Heavy Entertainment in person; he unfortunately will not be able to be there, as he has been sent on attachment to Aberdeen, but there will be a personal tape recording of his answer. "While we accept your criticisms in full, we feel that we know much better than you and that the programme was perfect in every way. Next, please."

For those who like to see behind the scenes, the BBC-TV Railway Film Unit are demonstrating some of the techniques used in their next epic series,

Great Railway Sidings of The World, while *Top of the Pops* will be showing just what happens during the four days necessary to train an average TOTP audience (the groups themselves, of course, just turn up and mime). David Attenborough will this week be looking for rare insects in Brunei, Iceland, Hawaii and Mauritius, so if you happen to be in the area, he says why not drop in and help him have a look or bring your own insects if you've got any! Jolly good.

Finally, if the absence of the *Radio Times* forced you to miss the historic programme in which Richard Attenborough accepted the nomination for the Eurovision Song Contest of his new number, "My Passive Resistance is Low", rest assured that it will soon be repeated. As the new *Radio Times* does not start till Saturday, here is a brief resumé of programmes till then. Radio 1, as Radio 2, Radio 2, as Radio 1, Radio 3, music. Radio 4, talk. BBC-1, final episode of *I Love Parus* in the *Springtime*. BBC-2, the Dimbleby Snooker Finals. John Pilger v "Hurricane" Thatcher.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 37)

- ACROSS
- 1 Food shortage (6)
 - 2 Saggy (6)
 - 3 Number (4)
 - 4 Cosmos (8)
 - 5 Fish (3)
 - 6 Notably (3)
 - 7 Eyepiece (6)
 - 8 Obsolete (6)
 - 9 Digi (3)
 - 10 Extra large (4,4)
 - 11 Court martial (8)
 - 12 Level (4)
 - 13 Bird of prey
 - 14 Limited (6)

- DOWN
- 1 Store (4)
 - 2 Small object (9)
 - 3 Evolve (5)
 - 4 Propel (5)
 - 5 Baking place (4)
 - 6 Mail (5)
 - 7 Aptitude (5)
 - 8 French king (5)
 - 9 Fraud (9)
 - 10 Harbour (4)
 - 11 Not hard (4)
 - 12 Iris (5)
 - 13 Aloofly (5)
 - 14 Immature (5)
 - 15 Chieftain (4)
 - 16 Pack (4)

SOLUTION TO No 36

ACROSS: 1 Asides 5 Sins 8 Aphid 9 Outside 11 Publicity 13 Role 15 Confidant 18 Lace 19 Inactivity 22 Empty 23 Total 24 Style 25 Payoff DOWN: 2 Sahib 3 Dad 4 Shoulder strap 5 Site 6 Uniform 7 Happy 10 Ewer 12 Info 14 Odds 15 Cockpit 16 Slew 17 Cycle 20 Albat 21 Wine 23 Tap

THE TIMES DIARY

Leg spinner

One of the ironies of the Australian prime minister's campaign against sporting links with South Africa is that Bob Hawke's life was once saved by a Springbok cricketer, touring Australia 31 years ago. It happened at Perth University where Hawke, as a student, did spermicide gardening for cash. One of his legs was caught in the wheel of a horse-drawn cart, and his thigh was badly torn when the horse bolted. Roy McLean, a South African batsman, and the late Ken Viljoen, Springbok tour manager, who were in Perth for the first match of the 1952-53 tour, rushed to Hawke's aid. Viljoen used McLean's shirt as a tourniquet while the batsman called an ambulance. Hawke later wrote to McLean to thank him for "saving my life".

Incidentally, I notice that Hawke is now seeking a butler for his official residence in Canberra. The pay is £310 a week, but only suitably experienced and qualified candidates need apply. I wonder what that means.

Hairy

One incident from the royal progress through Australia has not previously been broken surface in this country, though it is a favourite among antipodean reporters assigned to the tour. During a walkabout in South Australia, the Princess of Wales made, as usual, for the kiddies and parted one trouble-headed mite on the head. "And why aren't you in school today?" she inquired. "I was sent home, miss," the urchin replied, "because I've got head lice."

Book of the film

Like the Yanks, the bookies took a pasting on the Oscars. Esal Bookmakers, who offered the first British book on the academy awards, lost a total of £80,000 on *Gandhi's* triumph. They dropped £52,000 on its selection as best film, and £20,000 on Ben Kingsley's success as best actor. Oddly, no one backed Sir Richard Attenborough to lift the best director award. Undaunted, the bookies are looking to recoup their losses. Already the odds against a British film completing the hat-trick next year are only a stinky 2-1.

Proms to pit

It came as a surprise even to the management at Sadler's Wells this week to discover that the pianist in the orchestra pit to accompany the dancing of the Joyce Trisler Dens Company is Yvonne Seow, better known as a successful concert player. In 1974 he won the BBC piano competition as youngest ever competitor, and he has played several televised Promenade concerts since. Not only is this the first time Seow has played for dancers, it is also the first time the dancers have worked to live accompaniment. Seow, who took the job partly for the challenge of tackling Hindemith's *Four Temperaments*, is beneficiary of the Musicians' Union's stern attitude to the use of tape recordings at live performances.

Waste not

I have struck a rich vein in the matter of toilet tissue reading. After Dr Johnson on the subject, here is Lord Chesterfield's advice to his son, quoted by Roy Porter in *English Society in the 18th Century* and forwarded to me by the vicar of Walsley, Sheffield: "I knew a gentleman who was so good a manager of his time, that he would not even lose that small portion of it which calls of nature obliged him to pass in the necessary house, but gradually went through all the Latin poets in those moments. He bought, for example, a common edition of Horace, of which he tore off gradually a couple of pages, carried them with him to that necessary place, read them first and sent them down as a sacrifice to Clocina; that was so much time fairly gained, and I recommend you to follow his example... it will make any book which you shall read in that manner very present in your mind." Especially, of course, if it blocks the drains.

A correction circulated by the Birmingham Association of University Teachers says: "An unfortunate, if not entirely inappropriate, misprint has crept in... Nominations for the new National Women's Advisory Committee should, of course, be accompanied by brief biographical notes, and not by brief biological notes."

A Conservative councillor in Lambeth is calling for the borough's teeming pigeon population to be fed chemically, which is more surprising since the councillor's name is Dickie Bird. Objections to his scheme are not much on the side of the pigeons, but favour shooting and trapping instead. Marksman visit Waterloo station twice a year, early on Sunday mornings, to pop off some of the pestiferous fowls. The trouble with feeding, sterilising agents to the pigeons, it is said, is that their breeding season is so long there is nothing strong enough to stop them producing a clutch of squabbling squabs in the end.

PHS

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

A woman's place is in the House, or is it?

I learn (from an article by the Prime Minister's daughter, no less) of an organization called "The 300 Group", that being the number of women MPs the outfit is determined to see elected, on the ground that since women constitute half the population it is only just and fitting that they should be represented in Parliament by their own sex in the same proportion.

My first instinct, when I read this news, was to go back to bed and pull the bedclothes over my head, so that the neighbours should not be disturbed by my moans. My second instinct was to feel that the question is not quite so simple as that. What my third and deciding instinct will be I have not yet discovered, and I have to do so in the course of this column.

Let us take first the thought that the ladies of The 300 Group are barking up a non sequitur of massive dimensions, a view which has much to commend it. Parliament exists to represent the political will of the country; it is organized into parties because it is only through party that that will can be channelled into a choice for the electorate. Both halves of this proposition are crude and imperfect, but they are the best we can do, and I know of no free country that denies either.

It follows that the selection of an MP is a political process. Of course, that is not entirely so, any more than the system itself is entirely perfect, but it is the ultimate aim, and cannot be otherwise if our system is to work at all.

But what is political about the fact of gender? (The attitudes to gender, and the effect of those attitudes, constitute another question, which I shall come to in a moment.) In what way is a woman MP politically different, solely because of her sex, from a male one? For the life of me, I cannot see any answer to that question other than nonsense (which I trust The 300 Group itself would repudiate) like the argument that women would bring a gentler touch to politics, would persuade the hostile male-led powers to lay down their masculine arms, would use "feminine intuition" to solve the problems of inflation, unemployment and Northern Ireland. All such arguments patronize and diminish women, rather than respecting and enhancing them, and I trust that no serious supporter of equality for women would embrace them (the arguments, that is).

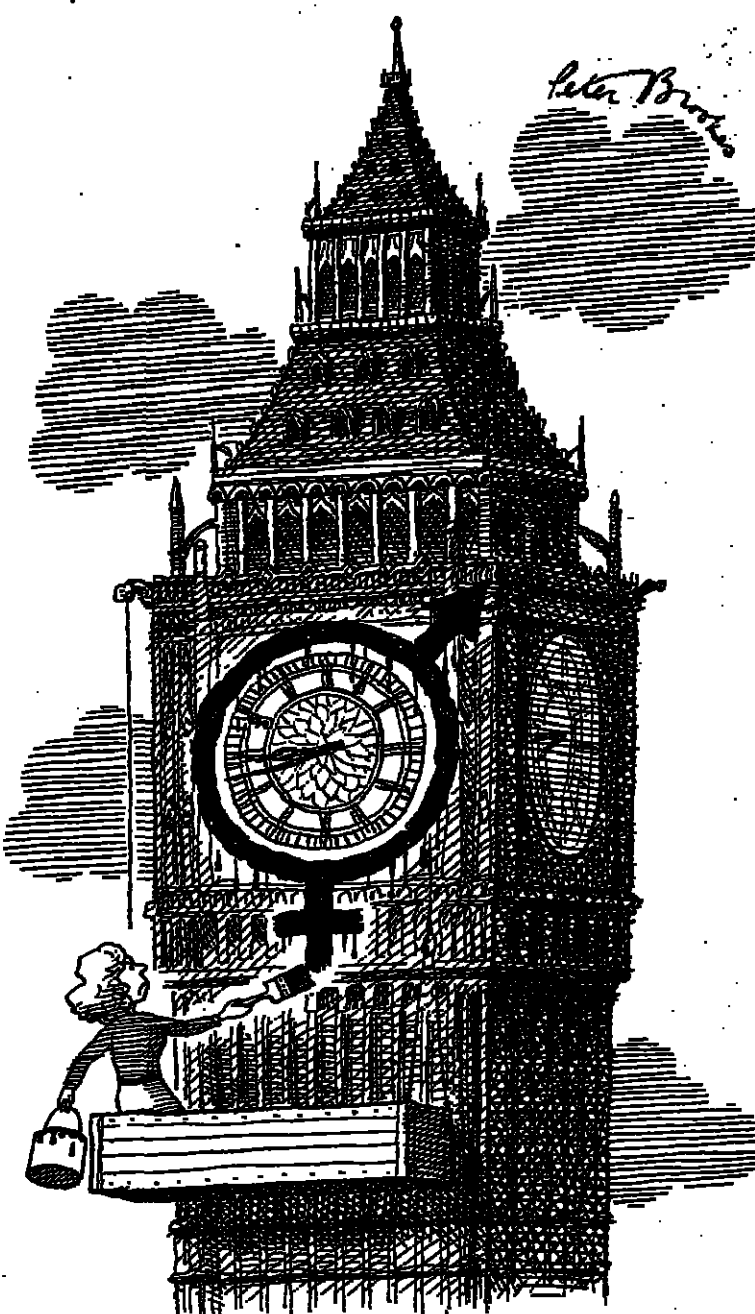
If women, solely because of their numbers, ought to be half of Parliament, what about homosexuals? I don't know what the latest imaginary figure for the proportion of homosexuals in the population is supposed to be - I last saw it passing

the 20 per cent mark and for all I know it may be approaching 120 by now - but if sex is to decide the way we elect our MPs the "third sex" can surely claim treatment as fair as that which is to be meted out to women when The 300 Group has its way. And what about race, religion, and other important qualifications? There is a real case to be made out, if we are going to abandon the purely political nature of candidate selection, for a fixed proportion (indexed to allow for changes in the population) of coloured MPs, Jewish MPs, disabled MPs, drunken MPs (already as a matter of fact, represented far more numerously than their boozy brothers and sisters in the population at large) and mad MPs.

I believe I was the first commentator on public affairs to campaign publicly for Mrs Thatcher's election as Leader of the Conservative Party. (I learned on that occasion, incidentally, that the women's movement in this country is largely bogus, instead of supporting her, and hailing her election when it was won, on the ground that this represented a giant advance for their sex irrespective of her politics, they fumed with rage because she was a Tory, and could not conceal their chagrin when her male colleagues chose her.) But I wanted her to win as I wanted her to win the subsequent general election, not because it was time we had a woman party leader and Prime Minister, but because I thought she was the best candidate for both offices. No one now argues (I predicted this effect, and the speed with which it took place) for or against Mrs Thatcher because she is a woman; they admire or detest her policies, her character, her attitudes, and so they should. But what, then, is so different about women MPs who are not Prime Ministers? Why should they be selected on a principle that all can see is untenable in the case of Mrs T?

At this point I must put my head out, very cautiously, from under the bedclothes. There is no doubt that women are discriminated against, by those charged with the selection of Tory and Labour parliamentary candidates (and I do not believe the Alliance is really any better), and that they are discriminated against because they are women.

This is illogical and unfair; it also lowers the quality of Parliament, in that, whenever a better candidate is passed over for a worse, Parliament (and we) lose something valuable, and it seems to me clear that worse candidates are preferred to better ones only, in general, when the better is a woman. The result of this discrimination can be seen in the numbers of women who sit in the



House of Commons at this moment, not many more than 20; I am unable to believe that all of the women who went forward for candidatures only this year were more qualified than their male rivals, or for that matter that those who did not even get on to the short list were inferior to all the men who did.

What can we do about it? Obviously, only one thing: change attitudes. How best can we change attitudes? I am not one of those who think that since legislation cannot itself make us virtuous, it should never be employed where virtue is required: the legal prohibition against discrimination on a basis of colour will not rapidly stop people hating or despising those of darker hue than themselves, but it will stop hoteliers hanging out signs saying "No niggers here", and who will deny that that is a gain of sorts?

Unfortunately, the problem under discussion is not amenable to legislation: not even the most fanatical member of the 300 Group (I take it) would advocate a law obliging half the constituency parties in the country to choose women candidates for Parliament, and, as I have made clear, I think that it would be a bad idea if such a law could be passed, since however unfair the existing discrimination is, choosing political candidates for non-political reasons would still be disastrously wrong. (And it is, after

all, exactly what the discriminators do.)

What all sensible people want, surely, is the selection of the best candidates. That can never be fully achieved, but it is a goal to strive for, and meanwhile it can be approached one step at a time. Moreover, it can only be approached one step at a time. And since the leaders of all the parties are unable, whatever their private opinions, to do anything in public but urge the end of this discrimination, the first step could and should be a vigorous campaign of exhortation (and, if necessary, threat) on the part of our political leaders, directed at their own political followers. (The Tories, with a woman Prime Minister, have less excuse than their opponents, though the Labour Party has an extra handicap in the implacably discriminatory nature of the unions.)

Let it be clear, though, that the thrust of any such campaign is against discrimination, not in favour of the kind of principle espoused by the 300 Group. What, after all, would its members do if they fully achieved their object, so that half the members of the House of Commons were women, and then found that in all the constituencies of the other half there was a woman candidate much better qualified than any of the men?

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David Hewson

Gandhi: the even bigger prize

The *Gandhi* bandwagon has been rolling towards an Oscar success for months. Sir Richard Attenborough's film may not have been pushed with the overwhelming Hollywood razzmatazz of some of its rivals, but it was helped by a very British publicity campaign, quiet without being self-effacing, modest, and brimming over with integrity, very much like the picture itself.

It would be a mistake to assume, however, that *Gandhi's* prizes, following as they do, the unexpected win of the best picture award by *Chariots of Fire* last year, spell some form of inevitable recovery for the British film industry. The domestic publicity machine will undoubtedly work overtime in the next few days, much of it aimed at Mr Iain Sproat, the minister who is about to reshape much of the business. It will demand extra tax concessions, levies on the showing of films on television, and more funds for the state-sponsored National Film Finance Corporation.

What will be missing from the clamour is one simple truth behind the decline of British cinema - that the film business started to hit the rocks when it began to make films which the public did not want to see. *Gandhi's* Oscars may well do wonders for Goldcrest, the company which made it, but it does not alter the basic fact that an industry that has lost its umbilical cord to public taste can only stagnate. Britain is still a long way from re-establishing a cycle of domestic film production in which an average budget film stands a reasonable chance of recouping its costs.

Last year, according to *Screen International*, 51 major films were made in Britain or by British film units, compared with 24 in 1981. With cinema audiences tumbling, except for major hits like *Gandhi* and *E.T.*, few are likely to show a profit, or convince any foreign distributor of a resurgence in British cinema.

The record of the National Film Finance Corporation has been particularly disappointing. Backed by money from the Eady Levy, the tax on cinema admissions, the NFFC has produced a series of flops, the most disappointing of which was Lindsay Anderson's return to filmmaking, *Brianna Hospital*.

When the results of Mr Sproat's review become known in the next few weeks, it seems likely that the NFFC and the Eady Levy may be ended.

Both actions would be interpreted as an attack on the film industry by those who believe the Government should positively encourage our film-makers.

No one has yet explained adequately why the cinema industry is more deserving of favourable treatment than, say, makers of ball bearings, who may offer steadier employment for more people.

But this should not disguise the fact that there are anomalies in the

Government's attitude towards the cinema. The most obvious is the way in which departmental responsibility for crucially related matters such as cable television, cinema industry training and film policy itself is split between the Home Office, the Department of Trade and the Department of Education and Science.

This is an anachronism and a nuisance, but it does not prevent anyone making a feature film. Only a lack of finance does that, and, given some of the spectacular excesses of the British film business in recent years, investors cannot be blamed for putting their money elsewhere.

Far too often, would-be backers have discovered, to their cost, that unreality exists in both sides of the cameras. Production expertise, financial management, and accurate accounting are skills which have often been absent, probably because they were thought inferior to creative talent.

What is, perhaps, most remarkable about *Gandhi* is that after 20 years of Attenborough's efforts, anyone stumped up the cash for the venture. It was James Lee, Goldcrest's chairman and chief executive of its parent, Pearson Longman, who nudged Pearson away from its more conventional interests - the *Financial Times* and Penguin Books - towards films at a time when the rest of the City was watching Lord Grade's ACC pour millions down the drain on flops like *Raise the Titanic*.

Goldcrest's interests have been unashamedly commercial. It has dug deep into its reserves to hire figures it views as the brightest talents around - Putnam, Barry Hanson, who produced *The Long Good Friday*, and former Thames TV head Mike Wooler - and concentrated on making intelligent, popular pictures. Like any other company, it lives or dies by the quality of its output.

Compare this with the elitist, little-seen films of the NFFC, where profits are preferable to losses, but not essential, and one confronts the conflict between the old, cloying British cinema of subsidies, intervention and direction by the good and great, and the promise of a more vigorous cinema, where that subtle relationship between public taste and a producer's skill resumes its cardinal importance.

While one may argue about *Gandhi's* artistic merits over its rivals, the very fact that it was financed at all, after so many years of Attenborough's fruitless searching, depended more on Pearson Longman's changing nature than the quality of the subject. What it has proved is a truism the British film business forgot that a good picture attracts audiences and acclaim. What *Gandhi* does not offer is a miracle ingredient to solve a sorry film industry's ills.

Brian Crozier

When no deal is the best deal

Pactitis is the special professional malady of foreign ministries and of career diplomats: the notion that any agreement is better than none. Whether the agreement (accord, pact, treaty, convention, protocol) is intrinsically good or bad is professionally of secondary importance. The pact is the thing.

To be fair, an agreement between friends or natural associates is good, more often than not. The North Atlantic Treaty, for instance, was good, meeting the need for collective defence against Stalin.

Even the Treaty of Rome had its good points, though it would have been better if the insular British had not boycotted the Messina conference of 1955 and had helped to shape a treaty more consistent with Britain's interests, instead of leaving it to the French to make the running.

Where pactitis is dangerous is in negotiations with an ideological or political adversary, who regards negotiations as a continuation of war by other means. I am prompted to these reflections by the bellicose statements of Marshal Kulikov at the latest meeting of the Warsaw Pact, of which he is commander-in-chief. His words were ostensibly addressed to President Reagan, but in reality to the "peace" demonstrators in the West, who need a good anti-American scare every now and then. He sounded awfully like Khrushchev 20 years ago, boasting: "We will bury you!"

Nothing, of course, could be more desirable than a US-Soviet pact on intermediate-range missiles in Europe, or for that matter on the intercontinental monsters - but only if the outcome preserved or restored the nuclear balance on which peace depends, as the case may be, and only if the pact made adequate provision for inspection. The spy-in-the-sky does not see everything. A pact for the sake of reassuring CND would be terrifying.

In fact, all conflicts involving ideological adversaries are soluble if one is prepared to give the adversary what he wants. Neville Chamberlain and Edouard Daladier reached agreement with Hitler at Munich by the simple expedient of giving him Czechoslovakia. Chamberlain thought this piece of paper had bought "peace in our time". He was, putting it minimally, wrong.

The late Pierre Mendes-France reached agreement with ideological adversaries at Geneva in July 1954, winning a bet that he would bring peace to Indochina within a month,

or resign as Premier. The clocks, it is said, were stopped in the Palais des Nations to enable him to make his deadline.

The agreement marked France's recognition of defeat, and Mendes-France even managed to deny his real adversary, Ho Chi Minh, the whole of the prize he coveted (both North and South Vietnam) by swapping the partition of Vietnam against an undertaking to Molotov that he (Mendes-France) would allow the proposal for a European Defence Community (EDC) to die in the French Assembly. Which duly happened.

Similarly, Henry Kissinger thought he had achieved "peace with honour" in Paris in January 1973, enabling the Americans to pull out of Vietnam. Two years later the communist forces overran South Vietnam (whose own forces had been denied ammunition by the US Congress), and Ho Chi Minh had his posthumous triumph.

Perhaps the classic case of a bad agreement hailed at the time as a diplomatic triumph was the Geneva pact on Laos, in July 1962. With what infinite patience, skill and good humour did that delightful man, the late Malcolm MacDonald, manage to persuade the neutralist and anti-communist factions to join the communists in a government of national unity. The predictable delayed outcome was that the communists made a meal of their temporary partners.

Palestine could well be one of the bad agreements still to be reached. Mrs Thatcher's refusal to play host to the PLO shows her awareness of the potential danger of handing that unfortunate territory and its people to a group of terrorists who were adopted by the Soviet Union in 1974 as a potential instrument of its foreign policy. To what extent they remain one after their dispersal from Lebanon and after the Russians had failed to lift a finger to defend them against the Israeli incursion does, however, need to be clarified.

Another bad agreement of the avoidable future could be a settlement of the Namibian problem. The kind of agreement I have in mind would be one that gave control over South-West Africa to that other surrogate of the Soviet Union, Swapo. In no time, Admiral Gorbachev would be setting up a naval base in what is now the South African enclave of Walvis Bay, and threatening to undo some of the good of our Falklands victory. My fingers are firmly crossed.

Blood on a black spot

Mr R. A. F. Swart: And if they do not wish to be moved? The Minister (Dr Piet Koenigshof): Then we try to discuss it with them, and we try to get them to participate. I am on record as saying that we want to get away as far as is practicable and possible from forced removals. (From the Hansard record of a debate in the House of Assembly in Cape Town on February 11, on the uprooting of black communities.)

Johannesburg. Saul Mkhize will be buried on Saturday in a plot behind his family home, a walled enclosure of solid one-storey thatched huts built from stones handcut by his grandfather more than 70 years ago. He died because he wanted to go on living where his father and grandfather had lived and died and been buried before him. Even in death the apartheid ideologues might still pursue him to seize and re-inter his bones.

On Easter Saturday Mr Mkhize called a meeting in the yard of the primary school at Driefontein, in the wooded, undulating countryside of the south-eastern Transvaal close to the border with Swaziland. He had intended to discuss a petition he had drafted protesting against the Government's plan to resettle the village's 5,000 or more inhabitants in tribal reserves.

The draft of the petition read in part: "We and our families have lived in Driefontein for over 70 years. We cannot accept that the Government can simply take away our land without even being prepared to discuss it with us."

Several hundred villagers turned up for the meeting, but before it could begin two police constables, one white and one black, arrived in a van and declared the gathering illegal. According to the villagers, there was some scuffling when the white policeman tried to grab Mr Mkhize's loudspeaker and punched or slapped him in the face. Tear gas canisters were fired.

Then the white constable drove the van out of the fenced yard, stopped, took out "a long gun" and fired at least two shots. The first hit a tree. The second was aimed directly at Mr Mkhize. The police say the constable acted to save himself from a "frenzied mob".

In the unlikely glossary of apartheid, Driefontein is a "black spot", sometimes more euphemistically called "a poorly situated area". The term is used to describe the parcels of land bought freehold by blacks from whites before 1913, when the Native Lands Act prohibited further transactions of this kind. Since they came to power in 1948, the Nationalists, in their



Before the final terror: Saul Mkhize with white anti-apartheid campaigners. Two weeks later he was shot.

pathological obsession with racial tidiness, have been seeking to eradicate these black splashes besmirching the face of "white" South Africa.

The Government is secretive about the scale of the removals and its figures are considered unreliable. The best independent guess is that close to half a million people have been trucked from "black spots" and dumped in usually barren resettlement camps in one or other of the 10 generally impoverished and disease-ridden tribal "homelands" set aside for black occupation. Together they account for no more than 14 per cent of South Africa's land surface.

The "black spot" removals are only part of a larger resettlement policy in which an estimated two to three million people, the vast majority of them black and most of them against their will, have been moved. A further million are said to be threatened with removal. The "black spot" eradication is peculiarly senseless because it typically involves the uprooting of what are not only long-established but usually contented, conservative and relatively successful rural communities. Driefontein is a fine example.

Covering 6,100 acres, it was one of three farms sold by a Willem Gouws to the Native Farmers' Association of Africa Ltd in 1912. This was one of a number of companies set up to buy land for black settlement at a time when many whites were moving to the cities. Two adjoining pieces of black

boreholes, a clinic, a cattle dip and bigger school buildings.

Some years ago government officials went to the village and had the letters "S" or "Z", followed by a number, painted on the doors of houses. At the time, many villagers naively accepted the explanation that the purpose was to improve postal deliveries. In fact it was to show who were destined for KaNgwane, the Swazi "homeland", and who were for KwaZulu, the Zulu "homeland", in crude disregard of cross-tribal marriage and family links.

In 1981 the villagers received a letter from a government deputy minister saying that sometimes it was necessary "for people to be encouraged to move for their own ultimate good" and that a dam "of national importance" was to be built which would "inundate some of your properties". In fact it has never been shown that the dam needs to flood more than a small part of the Driefontein area if at all.

The villagers also learnt that they would be taken to the resettlement locations in buses, provided with rations for no more than three days and temporary accommodation in tents or prefabricated shacks.

Mr Mkhize, who was about 48, inherited four properties from his father. He was also a qualified printer and worked in an accountancy firm in Johannesburg. Last December, at a meeting of 3,000 of the villagers, he was elected chairman of a new council of directors. This in effect replaced the previous "community board" which, it was felt, had not been negotiating toughly enough with the government. At one point about 80 landholders had signed affidavits saying they wanted to be moved, but nearly all later said they had done so under threats and pressure.

From December on there was increasing harassment of the villagers by police and government officials. In February, Mr Mkhize's 17-year-old son Paris was beaten up by some men who identified themselves as policemen (though the police disclaim any responsibility for the incident). On March 19 a magistrate from Walkerstrom arrived and delivered an ultimatum from the government: the resettlement was going ahead whether the villagers liked it or not, and the counting of houses and people would begin shortly. Two days before he died, Mr Mkhize wrote a letter direct to the Prime Minister, Mr Pieter Botha, beseeching him: "We need your help and we ask for it now".

Michael Hornsby



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ROCK OF AGES

Every spring since about 1850 the Atlantic and Mediterranean Fleets of the Royal Navy have met in Gibraltar and carried out joint exercises. Since 1945, this naval exercise has been called Spring Train. It has usually included both naval manoeuvres and some simulated defence of the Rock against possible assault. Last year, when the Falkland Islands in the South Atlantic were being invaded by a real enemy, there were 24 British warships at anchor in the harbour of Gibraltar.

Until the Lisbon Agreement of 1980, which visualised that the border between the Rock and the mainland would be fully opened, Spain used to mark this British naval activity with diplomatic protest. Indeed there were often protests at the visit of a single warship, particularly a nuclear submarine. The Lisbon Agreement was supposed to trade the unqualified opening of the frontier with an undertaking to start discussions on all outstanding matters between Spain and Britain. After it was signed, the diplomatic protests stopped.

In the event Lisbon was never implemented, since the date chosen followed too closely on the dispatch of the task force to recover the Falklands and Spaniards of all political persuasions became seized by an emotional rapport with Argentina. Throughout the Falklands campaign the Spanish press cracked with hostility to Britain. There was an obvious identification between the Argentine attitude to "Las Malvinas", and every Spaniard's desire to reabsorb Gibraltar into Spain.

Now Spain's new Socialist government has reactivated the

Spanish protest at Spring Train and has threatened to take "appropriate measures" to see that Spain's interests will not be prejudiced. Madrid has over-reacted to the perfectly legitimate presence of the British fleet. That is sad, but politically understandable. In Spain post-Falkland emotions still run high. There could be no more obvious trigger to them than the spectacle of a British Task Force - even to the inclusion of HMS Invincible - carrying out manoeuvres in an area of great political sensitivity off the southern coast of Spain. That sensitivity is not just caused by the memory of last year's warfare in the South Atlantic, when Spanish-speaking forces were humiliated, but also by the delicacy of Spain's uncertain membership of NATO.

Ironically it is in the field of naval cooperation between Britain and Spain within NATO that both countries could achieve most progress towards some sort of normalcy in arrangements over Gibraltar. The most likely outcome of Spain's membership being ratified by referendum, for instance, would be a new NATO naval command, in which a British admiral in Gibraltar would operate under the overall direction of a Spanish commander-in-chief. In those circumstances, next year's exercise Spring Train would be able to celebrate a fruitful, if functional, reconciliation between the two navies, entirely without prejudice to the difficult political discussions which should follow a full opening of the border.

Sadly the Spanish Government has not fully raised its siege

so the Lisbon Agreement still remains to be implemented. Such a state of affairs would be inconceivable between two NATO allies with democratically elected governments. It would be even more inconceivable, indeed intolerable, between two members of the EEC, assuming that Spain's application to join is ultimately accepted. Moreover the partial opening of the frontier to Spanish and Gibraltarian pedestrians has been grossly discriminatory. Gibraltarians can buy fresh produce in Spain and carry it home, but Spaniards are not allowed to do the reverse. No tourists are allowed to cross from Gibraltar into Spain, so that Gibraltar's tourist industry cannot as yet be revived. The estimated cash outflow from Gibraltar into Spain is thus running at between £100,000 and £150,000 per week and has given rise to many complaints by Gibraltar's Chamber of Commerce pressing its Government to retaliate in some way.

So there are points to be made by both sides. The wider interest must surely be to get over this momentary unpleasantness in relations and proceed to a point where a democratic Spain is a member both of NATO and of the European Community. From the British point of view that would not only enhance both the Alliance and the Community. It would also ensure that a democratic Spain, in spite of its feelings and ambitions for Gibraltar, would fully understand the democratic necessity for Britain to honour its pledge under the Gibraltar constitution to respect the wishes of the Gibraltarians on the issue of sovereignty.

OF BACKBENCHERS, BABY AND BATHWATER

Mr Norman St John-Stevens's Parliamentary Control of Expenditure (Reform) Bill has made considerable progress in its committee stage. The Comptroller and Auditor General, invented by Mr Gladstone in 1866 as a means of ensuring probity in the public finances, has had his powers substantially strengthened. Mr St John-Stevens has brought the Treasury and its Chief Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, a long way in persuading them to agree that the Comptroller shall be in future an official of the House of Commons and that his right to pursue value-for-money, plus efficiency and effectiveness investigations, should be set in statute as Gladstone enshrined his traditional audit powers in the Exchequer and Audit Act. In future, the Commons backbenchers, most notably the Chairman of the Select Committee on Public Accounts, will enjoy an effective veto over whom is appointed to the Comptroller-ship, though the Prime Minister will continue formally to recommend the name of the appointee.

These reforms may sound arcane to the layman. But they are the very stuff of backbench power. Yet, when Standing Committee C reconvenes this morning after the Easter recess it will meet in an atmosphere of sourness and recrimination. For the reformers have fallen out.

The acrimony arises from the

compromise reached between Mr St John-Stevens and Mr Brittan on how the nationalised industries shall be audited on behalf of Parliament and who shall do it. The original version of the bill would have enabled the Comptroller and Auditor General to assist staff from his Exchequer and Audit Department to examine the books of public bodies 50 per cent or more of whose finance was furnished from the public purse.

The Nationalised Industries Chairman's Group was incensed. The Treasury and the Department of Industry counter-attacked on the chairman's behalf.

Under the new clause which enshrines the St John-Stevens concordat, an audit of economy, efficiency and effectiveness will be carried out annually within each nationalized industry. The field to be investigated will be decided by the industry's sponsoring minister, the Public Accounts Committee and the select committee which monitors the work of the body concerned. The auditor concerned will not be a member of the Comptroller's staff, though the Comptroller will be able to comment on what he uncovers. The results will be reported to Parliament. The sponsoring minister, after consultation with the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, can ex-

clude from release, "any matters the publication of which would in his opinion prejudice national security or seriously and prejudicially affect the interests of the body in question or of any other person".

Several MPs on Standing Committee C regard the new clause as not merely useless, but positively harmful. They argue that for a nationalized industry audit to be truly independent, it should be carried out by the Comptroller and the cost borne by Parliament. They do not want a "bonanza" for private accountants.

The dissenters are sufficiently enraged to arouse fears that the bill as a whole might be wrecked. Clause 22 might be defeated in committee today, though it will probably scrape through. If it does, Labour MPs in general could be moved to kill it at the report stage.

To lose the gains already won at committee stage in the shape of new powers for the Comptroller would be tragic. The exponents of backbench power should agree at least to consolidate gains on the Comptroller's role. For its part, the Government should make amends for the earlier antipathy by taking the Bill over and finding sufficient time on the floor of the Commons to ensure its passage, with or without the controversial clause.

NO PLINTH, NO PILLAR

Arguments in favour of building a European pillar within the frame work of Nato have been fashionable for more than a decade at least. Unlike those in favour of motherhood and apple pie, they have not gone entirely unopposed. But the "ayes" have usually outnumbered the "noes" within the forum of an intellectual debate. Now the report by Chatham House and others has swelled the chorus of dissent.

Many Europeans have lost confidence in the leadership from Washington, and resent having to play second fiddle. Many Americans have lost confidence in the willingness of Europeans to shoulder their fair share of the defence burden, and resent having to redress the balance of the Old World without an appropriate display of gratitude. The European allies in fact still provide the bulk of Nato's ground and air defences in situ - and it is equally true that American motives are not simply altruistic. But the perceptions are none the less important and if the dissatisfaction which emerges on both sides of the Atlantic from time to time could be removed - then Nato would be the better for it.

Ideally pillars should grow naturally, developing slowly like stalagmites as opposed to springing up overnight as it were - like monuments. Ideas at some stage have to coalesce before being

given practical form. But the inspiration behind any such development within the Atlantic alliance should be deeply and universally felt if it is going to be more than a nine days' wonder. Whether this is now the case is very doubtful. Arguments heard now differ little from those which were expressed in the early 1970s and while the dissent is still louder than the assent, it is far from being united.

One of the difficulties is that those in favour of strengthening the European pillar cannot decide upon the plinth. Should it be the European Community - as is favoured in this latest plea? Or should it be the Eurogroup, the tangential body of European powers which already exists within Nato? Or indeed should it not be the Western European Union (WEU), now quietly moribund - but, in French eyes anyway, capable of resurrection?

There are arguments for and against adopting any of these as the basis for a more distinctly European contribution to the cause of Western defence. In many ways the WEU would be ideal, particularly as it has the support of the French - and to build a European pillar without winning the judgment of Paris would be plainly absurd.

The chief advantage of the Eurogroup is that it exists and works - though in a rather more limited sense than is here envisaged. (And it is within Nato already). The European Community by contrast is entirely distinct from Nato, although it is true that its machinery for coordinating foreign policies where practicable is working very well. The Community includes Ireland which is non-Nato, and does not contain Norway - but those are anomalies which are not insuperable. On balance the choice of the Community is arguable but not irresistibly so. Moreover to suggest that a European pillar should be built within Nato just to help strengthen the Community is the kind of argument which is, without wishing to cause offence, Irish.

The latest report carefully and rightly distinguishes between a defence community in Europe which would exist without the United States, and the concept of a European voice within the alliance. Even so, however right-minded one may be, the danger of splitting the alliance into two camps is a real one - and one which Nato, for all its imperfections, has so far just managed to avoid. We should not run the risk of driving the Americans back to their own tents, by accident or design.

Aid to Cambodian refugees

From the Director of The British Refugee Council and others

Sir, Your leader (April 7) focuses attention on the continuing plight of Cambodian refugees in Thailand and of at least 150,000 innocent Cambodian civilians caught in crowded temporary villages astride the Thai-Cambodian border.

These people are prevented from entering Thailand by the Thai Army and prevented from returning to the interior of Cambodia by their own guards and the Vietnamese Army; their situation is at best precarious when an uneasy peace prevails on the border. Now that battles are raging, their lives are in constant danger from shelling, mines and bullets.

While we must accept that protracted negotiations will be necessary before a settlement is reached in Kampuchea, there is one improvement which humanitarian organizations can and must achieve immediately, in spite of any political objections.

Some Cambodian civilians, both in camps in Thailand and on the border, have been able to return to their home villages in Cambodia, if only a safe route could be found. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees has been trying to identify such a route for over two years, but has been unable to reach agreement with the political authorities involved. In view of the constant threat to their lives, this failure to offer safe passage to their villages of origin unnecessarily perpetuates the suffering of people, many of whom are the innocent victims of conflict.

The British Refugee Council and its member agencies which have programmes in the area are willing to support the High Commissioner in his efforts to identify safe routes, make available transport and use his good offices with the Governments of Thailand and Cambodia to agree a solution to the problem. We urge the British Government to use all available diplomatic means to persuade those involved to cooperate fully in this essential humanitarian operation.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN BARBER (Director, British Refugee Council),
BRIAN WALKER (Director General, Oxfam),
JOHN A. CUMBER (Director General, Save the Children Fund),
JOYCE PEARCE (Executive Director, Christian Aid),
The British Refugee Council, Broadway House, 3/9 Broadway, SW8, April 8.

Ill effects of lead

From Professor D. Bryce-Smith

Sir, The letter of April 6 from Miss Smith and others on the politically sensitive issue of lead pollution and mental performance in children fails in its stated objective to clarify the authors' views. Concerning their unpublished findings, they state that "Once the effect of social factors is removed from the equation, differences in performance between children with higher and lower lead levels were substantially reduced to a level that was not significant statistically."

Unfortunately, one cannot "remove" social factors in this way without simultaneously removing part of the contribution due to lead intoxication, for the reason that social factors and lead do not operate independently on the child. For example, it is well known that the toxic effects of lead can be greatly intensified by poor diet and social stress, both of which factors also tend to relate to social class etc. It therefore appears that statistical procedures have been employed which would tend to underestimate any contribution due to lead.

The authors should publish their findings in full for peer review, as soon as possible, rather than releasing them in dribs and drabs. Yours faithfully,
D. BRYCE-SMITH,
Professor of Organic Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, The University, Whiteknights Park, Reading, Berkshire, April 6.

Nuclear balance

From Dr Geoffrey Lee Williams

Sir, Why cannot we have the truth, says Mr William Shepherd (April 2), about the military balance in Europe. He asserts that misleading figures are constantly quoted as to the number of men deployed on the ground in both Nato and the Warsaw Pact. His implication that Soviet military capabilities in Europe are less impressive than they appear must be challenged.

First, the existing balance of forces provides the Warsaw Pact an advantage of approximately between 1.5 to one and two to one in combat power (measured in terms of armoured division equivalent - a method that attempts to equalize difference in combat power of different types of divisions).

The pact also possesses a three to one advantage in tanks, a two to one advantage in armoured personnel carriers, at least a three to one advantage in conventional artillery, and at least a 2.4 to one advantage in tactical aircraft.

The Warsaw Pact is indubitably capable of a much faster build-up of combat power (the Soviet Union possesses a huge pool of trained reserves on which to draw). Therefore it seems to me obvious that when viewing quantitative ratios, the maximum Pact advantage would be quickly gained within several weeks after the decision to mobilize. I recognize that if the United States is permitted to achieve an unimpeded reinforcement of Nato's central region the Pact's ratio advantages will no longer increase after the first

Human life and post-coital pill

From Professor Glanville Williams QC, FBA

Sir, When I said in my Carpenter lectures in 1956, as Mr J. M. Finnis quotes (April 5), that "the foetus is a human life to be protected by the criminal law from the moment when the ovum is fertilised", I was stating the general opinion as to the law, but my concern was to criticise it. In fact the precise time from which the developing ovum is protected by law had not been, and still has not been, legislatively or judicially determined.

Until 1803 the common law of the royal courts took the sensible view that abortion was not punishable before quickening, i.e. about mid-term. Parliament, regrettably, removed this limitation in that year, but the statute still defined the crime as "using means with intent to procure a miscarriage," and this remains the wording of the law. The question is what was meant by "miscarriage".

In my book based on the lectures (*The Sanctity of Life and the Criminal Law*) I quoted medical statements that the word "miscarriage" formerly applied only after the sixteenth week (Britain) or twenty-eighth week (United States), the term "abortion" being used for the period before that. It can, therefore, be argued with considerable force that when Parliament abolished the limitation for quickening in 1803 it did not mean to extend the law back to the time of fertilisation (that is, to the period to which the term "abortion" was then medically confined). Why, otherwise, did Parliament choose the word "miscarriage" instead of and to the exclusion of "abortion"? It may be suggested that all that Parliament meant to do was to dispense with the need for proof of the woman's experience of quickening, while retaining the need to prove that the foetus had reached a fairly advanced stage of development - say, four months.

The present proposal for reinterpreting the word "miscarriage" is much more modest than this. It dates from the report of an advisory group established by the British Council of Churches in 1962, which suggested that for legal purposes conception should be taken to commence with the implantation of

the blastocyst in the womb, i.e. about two weeks after fertilisation. This offered a slight relaxation of the rigid ideas then prevailing, and, most important, it now offers a conceptual means of legalising not merely the useful post-coital pill but IUDs and also the "contraceptive" pill, which can work by preventing implantation rather than fertilisation. General opinion has come to realise that the consequences of any other view are too absurd for contemplation.

Mr Finnis, like other out-and-out anti-abortionists, rests his case principally upon a verbal argument. In his language and, he thinks, in common speech, a fertilised ovum is a "child", and he pleads that we must not "deprive the human being of just protection during its first two weeks of life". But is a fertilised ovum a child, and is it a human being? Of course one can use language to break down the distinction between the seed and the developed organism; one could speak of an acorn as a "quiescent being", along with the oak tree, but that would not hoodwink anyone into thinking that an acorn is an oak. By "human being", in common speech, we refer to a human organism of a certain stage of development.

Historically, the extreme anti-abortion case rests upon theological speculation, which still influences it even though the theology is now discreetly relegated to the background. The fertilised ovum must be protected because the soul entered with fertilisation. But then there is the awkward phenomenon of the single ovum becoming twins, or quintuplets. Using the language of the soul, either you must say that the quintuplets owed their origin to a fertilised ovum inhabited by five souls, or you must say that the single soul in the fertilised ovum subsequently divided into five souls.

Would it not be more sensible, from every point of view, to agree that the question must not be considered at least within the first two weeks of fertilisation?

Yours faithfully,
GLANVILLE WILLIAMS,
Merton Gate, Gazeley Road, Cambridge, April 6.

Deported Romanian

From Mr E. D. Towne

Sir, Whilst in no way condoning the treatment of the expelled Romanian, I must take issue with some of Prince Alexandre's more tendentious remarks in his letter (April 8).

It may be that more could have been done to help the Russian Imperial family, although no doubt the British Government of the time had to consider the effect on public opinion of any measures taken to help a family identified with autocracy and Great Russian imperialism - the more so during a war being fought for the rights of peoples.

Prince Alexandre is on shakier ground when he imputes to the British Government the responsibility for the demise of the White forces in the civil war. He must know that the divisions among the various White commanders, to say nothing of the behaviour of many White units, helped immeasurably to seal their fate.

To allege that "England has the melancholy responsibility for the initial growth and proliferation of communism today" is both to give a

distorted view of the events from 1917 and to ascribe to the British Government vastly more power and influence than it enjoyed even at that time.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD TOWNE,
25 Fernbank Road, Redland, Bristol, Avon.

From Dr Barbara K. Howells

Sir, Prince Alexandre Galitzine writes (April 8) that England's record is deplorable in its treatment of refugees. How I disagree. We were refugees from Poland coming in a coal boat in the summer of 1940. The welcome we received was warm and unquestioning.

Later, when my parents could no longer afford it, the nuns at the boarding convent I attended allowed me a free education "as a gesture to Poland" and Hampshire county granted me a major award which entirely funded 5½ years at medical school.

For one refugee, at least, the very opposite of deplorable treatment.

Yours faithfully,
BARBARA K. HOWELLS,
The Forge, Totteridge Green, N20.

Church and state

From the Reverend David F. Fennan

Sir, The letter of the Reverend R.W. Elbourne (April 2) concerning baptism and establishment seems to suggest that the establishment of the Church of England gives grounds for baptism of the children of all who live in our country. Neither the scriptures nor our prayer books know of baptism on such grounds. Rather baptism has always been rightly administered on the grounds of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

If Mr Elbourne wants his first word to parents requesting baptism to be Yes (and I would not disagree with that) then his responsibility as a minister and custodian of the gospel

surely demands that his second word is not because, but if. Even if their position could be justified theologically, those who claim that baptism of infants creates evangelistic opportunity surely have a lot of work to do to prove their case in the light of the history of the Church of England in this century.

Those criticised in his letter are perhaps being more honest than Mr Elbourne to the clear intention of the services, to the spirit of Canons B2.1, B2.2.3 and 4, and B2.3.2, and to baptism itself.

Yours faithfully,
D. F. FENNAN,
The Rectory, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, April 2.

quantitative advantages if Nato does not follow through with its long-term defence programme (the Pershing 2 and cruise missile modernization included).

I agree with Mr Shepherd that manpower comparisons are not in fact particularly valuable and that manning levels for both sides are difficult to assess. But there is clear evidence of the dynamic change in Soviet conventional forces to which Nato has drawn attention. Today, for example, a Soviet motorized rifle division is equal in firepower to the strongest US mechanized division. An independent tank battalion with about 42 tanks has been added to each motorized rifle division. Soviet investments in artillery, multiple rocket launcher holdings, and air defence systems are most marked. Today's 31 Soviet divisions in the groups of Soviet forces are equivalent to at least 40 "1966-equipped" divisions.

Mr Shepherd cannot deny that the Soviet conventional force build-up in central Europe has been consistent with their doctrine, which dramatizes the advantages of surprise, mass concentrated firepower and shock to smash through Nato's defences and rapid movement to exploit the breakthrough. He might be right to credit the Soviets with non-aggressive intentions, but their capabilities tell us to be sceptical.

Yours sincerely,
GEOFFREY LEE WILLIAMS,
13 Devon Bank, Portsmouth Road, Guildford, Surrey, April 4.

Hard hearts and Third World

From Mr Hallam Murray

Sir, It saddens me greatly to read Peter Bauer and Basil Yamey's article ("Why we should close our purse to the Third World", April 11). How extraordinary that two such eminent professors should take such a black and white view of this complex issue.

Government-to-government aid is just one aspect of international aid. Although the sums of money are large indeed, the two professors make no mention whatsoever of the value of the countless thousands of programmes financed by the independent aid organizations situated throughout most of the developed world. By and large, the aid programmes run by these organizations are less troubled by government interference and are more easily monitored in terms of cost-effectiveness.

Whether or not it is correct to assume that aid cannot significantly promote Third World development, surely such areas as disaster relief and the provision of fresh water supplies are reasons enough not to close our purses, whether national or private. What is needed is a more careful control of where and on what this money is spent.

Yours faithfully,
HALLAM MURRAY,
97 Shutehouse Road, SW11, April 11.

Design for living

From Professor Bruce Archer

Sir, My former colleague, Mr Brian P. Smith, should not be allowed to get away scot-free with his outrageous comments (April 8) on the role of the art colleges in design education. In asserting that design should be got out of the art schools, Mr Smith iterates two widely held misconceptions, about which he should know better, and then jumps to an unwarrantable conclusion.

Firstly he asks the rhetorical question, "Where can most young people study design, except at colleges of art-and-design?" He implies that the answer is "nowhere", but this is not the case. Design is also studied in schools of architecture, engineering and everywhere that the configuration of things and systems is a matter of concern. Design is a ubiquitous concept, like literacy, numeracy and scientific awareness. This has been the whole point of the correspondence which Mr Smith admits he was late in noticing.

Secondly, he states that manufacturing industries suspect the products of the schools of art and design. Whatever he may mean by this sweeping generalisation, it is manifestly not the case that the relevant industries fail to take graduates of the art schools into their employ.

Indeed, there can be few departments of universities and polytechnics whose records of take-up into industrial employment could outshine those of most of the design departments of most of the colleges of art in Britain. To imply anything else flies in the face of the facts.

From these two shaky premises, Mr Smith goes on to conclude that "the way to achieve better recognition of design as a value-adding resource is to get it out of the art colleges". What on earth can he mean? Where else, as he himself said, could graphic designers, illustrators, textile designers, fashion designers, silversmiths and the rest - all indispensable contributors to the added value of their respective industries - get their training?

Mr Smith would have done better to have supported the campaign to get better recognition of design in the engineering and business schools, and in general education, than to knock the art schools. Yours faithfully,
BRUCE ARCHER,
Royal College of Art, Kensington Gore, SW7, April 10.

Sea fever

From Mr S. C. J. Palmer

Sir, David Moss (April 7) seems concerned about the apparently high leave allowances of merchant seamen: one day's leave for every two days' work in the case of deep-sea mariners.

If Mr Moss were to consider his own leave entitlement he would not find those of the seamen so peculiar. Assuming that the average shore-based employee works a five-day week and receives four weeks' holiday plus eight Bank holidays, I calculate that in a year he actually works 233 days, which is, in fact, more than one day off for every two days' work.

In addition, some of the merchant seamen's workdays are at weekends; ashore it is usual to give time off in lieu in a greater proportion than one for one for work on these days.

Perhaps the National Union of Seamen had a case?

Yours faithfully,
S. C. J. PALMER,
206 Maritime House, Old Town, Clapham SW4, April 8.

Taking 'The Times'

From Mr Michael Fiorini

Sir, I can sympathise with Mr Stephen West, (March 28). Some years ago, at Victoria Station, there was a poster advertising the fact that "75 per cent of top people took *The Times*". Under this dubious statement was added: "The other 25 per cent pay for it", by an earlier sufferer.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL FIORINI,
c/o 6 St Paul's Square, Bromley, Kent, March 28.

هكنا من الاجل

هكذا من راحل

Investment
and
FinanceCity Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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200 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EZ
Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 887.7 up 3.8
FT 100 Index 433.68 up 5.44
Bargains: 24,304
Trading Half USM Index: 170.7
Up 0.1
Foster Nikkei Dow Jones
Average 8,458.93 down 8.58
Hong Kong Hang Seng Index
1,052.40 up 10.54
New York Dow Jones Average
(latest) 1,140.87 down 0.96

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5415 up 1.45
Index 82.0 up 0.4
DM 3.7375
FF 11.1950
Yen 366.50
Dollar
Index 122.1 up 0.1
DM 2.4235
Gold \$432.25 up \$2.25
NEW YORK LATEST
Gold \$432.10
Sterling \$1.5353

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rates 10%
3 month interbank 10% 10%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9% 9%
3 month DM 5% 5%
3 month FF 13% 13%
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period March 2 to April
5, 1983 inclusive: 10.974 per
cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Johnston 330p, up 34p
Peko Walsend 360p, up
30p
Elsbury Gold 283p, up 21p
Midford Decks 75p, up 20p
Mercantile New 645p, up
20p
Can O'seas Pack 310p, up
20p
Acrew 'A' 18p, down 1p
Atlantic Met 89p, down 9p
Davy Corp 88p, down 4p
GKN 162p, down 18p
Johnson & F 8p, down 1p
Steel Bros 315p, down 25p

TODAY

Interim: Kalamazoo, Port
land
Finals: Astbury and Madeley
(Holds), British Mohair Spin-
ners, Burnham Oil, J J Dewhurst,
Empire Stores (Bradford), Giff
and Duffus, James Finlay,
Hewdon/Stuart, Higgs & Higgs,
Huntley, Off and Gas
Production, Offield Inspection
Services, Pearl Assurance,
Rockware, Royal Worcester,
Williams, Sindell, George
Spencer.
Economic statistics: Central
Government transactions (incl
borrowing requirement) (March).

BTR offer
next week

BTR's formal offer document
for its massive but unwanted
bid for Thomas Tilling is
expected early next week soon
after Tilling produces its report
and accounts for last year,
written before the bid material-
ized.
Tilling's defence document,
expected to include good figures
for the present year, is not likely
to appear until near the end of
the three-week period to the
first closing date which follows
the formal bid.

Tilling intends to fight hard
all along the way. It will not let
BTR have the share register
until the last possible moment -
Friday - and will have to
address each one individually.
● ZERO GROWTH: Latin
America's economic growth this
year is likely to be zero, but
could rise to between 4 and 6
per cent again by 1985, the
World Bank says in its latest
economic forecast for the
region. But president Mr A W
"Tom" Clavien said that the
Bank had been restrained in its
help for the poorest countries
because of "warring" US
support.

● REBASING: The official
national accounts statistics are
to be rebased on 1980 = 100
this year instead of 1975 = 100
as they are now, the Central
Statistical Office said yesterday.
● HARRODS DATE: Share-
holders of House of Fraser will
decide on Friday, May 5, at the
board's resolution over whether
Harrods should be demerged
from the rest of the department
stores group. A document
containing the arguments of the
majority of the board on why it
should not be separated was due
to be dispatched to shareholders
yesterday but was delayed by a
technical hitch at the printers.

Dow dips
after
passing
record

New York (Reuters) - Stock
prices mixed in morning
trading yesterday as investors
took profits after the Dow Jones
Industrial average passed its
record closing high.

The Dow rose 4.55 points in
the first hour of trading to
1,146.38, surpassing its high
close of 1,143.90 set on March
29. It then slipped and by mid-
morning was three points lower
at about 1,138.50.

Advances continued to lead
declines by a ratio of seven to
six.
Analysts said the market
continued to find support from
a decline in interest rates. The
key Federal funds rate, on
overnight loans between banks,
opened at 5 1/2 per cent yesterday
morning, down from Monday's
close of 5 3/4 per cent. Fed funds
were above 9 per cent all last
week.

Technology stocks, Monday's
market leaders, were among the
morning's losers, including
IBM off 1/4 to 105, Digital
Equipment 1 1/2 to 119, NCR
1 1/2 to 105 and Honeywell 1 1/2 to
94 1/2.

Phillips Petroleum was down
1/4 to 34 1/2, Great Northern Neke-
sa was up 1/4 to 43 1/2, Georgia
Pacific was unchanged at 25 1/2.

Fed calls
for lower
deficits

From Bailey Morris
Washington

Interest rates are too high to
sustain a long-term recovery,
but should not prevent a short-
term upturn in the American
economy, according to Mr Paul
Volcker, chairman of the
Federal Reserve Board.

Mr Volcker, told the House
Banking Committee: "If the
inflation outlook is as good as I
think it is, then interest rates are
higher now than they should be
and too high to sustain a
recovery in the long term."

The way to tackle the
problem was to reduce soaring
Federal budget deficits, Mr
Volcker said.

Financial markets had to be
convinced that Federal deficits
would be lowered and the fight
against inflation would be
continued before rates would
move appreciably lower he said.

In addition, banks should
take steps to lower rates by
cutting "On the liability side,
where rates are charged."

"I'd be on the same side and
if I saw an opportunity to help
any financial institution by
being on the leading edge of
interest rate cuts, I'd be in it,"
Mr Volcker said in what was
regarded as a warning to banks.

Over the short term, how-
ever, Mr Volcker was more
hopeful, explaining that the
central bank continued to
expect a moderate recovery this
year of growth in the 3 1/2 to 4
per cent range.

It is possible that growth will
be even stronger in the short
run if the inflation rate contin-
ues to drop below expected
levels and consumer spending
picks up.

Because the short-term out-
look appeared good, Mr Volcker
indicated that the Central Bank
would stay with its present
monetary policies which have
allowed money flexibility money
growth, which only recently
appeared to be under control by
the central bank.

Mr Volcker gave no hint of
whether the Fed had tightened
credit or intended to do so in
the future, saying that he
expected recent bursts in the
money supply to slow down in
the months ahead. Due to
natural market fluctuations.

He said the Central Bank had
continued its policy of putting
less emphasis on growth in the
M1 money supply but added that
prolonged vigorous growth in
this key indicator "would be
cause for concern."

Mr Volcker also stated strong
opposition to Congressional
efforts to influence the policies
of the Central Bank by requiring
a vote on these questions. His
employment and growth objec-
tives on a year-by-year basis.

The prospect of several
sizeable American sharehold-
ings in the company's bank under-
mine the company's financial
independence since the sale of
a 520p per share bid from Mr
Marshall Cogan and Mr
Stephen Swid, two New York
financiers and art collectors.
Sotheby's directors have pre-
ferred their bid as a way
to ensure the company's future
and 133 of the
group's art experts have
been asked to resign if control
passes into their hands.

However, over the last six
months an increasing number
of shares have found their way
into the hands of American
investors, many looking for a
fast return as speculation
increased about an imminent
takeover bid.
In addition to the 14 per cent

Sir Jeremy Morse's radical plan to change financial system
Bank chairman seeks greater
role for IMF and World Bank

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Sir Jeremy Morse, chairman
of Lloyd's Bank, and an
internationally respected bank-
er, has drawn up a five-point
programme for a new world
economic order in advance of
the Williamsburg summit next
month.

Sir Jeremy said at the
Institute of Fiscal Studies in
London, last night that it was
both possible and desirable to
improve the pattern of world
finance, but gave a warning that
attempts to return to a more
structured system would be
abortive and damaging.

He called for radical but
gradual changes in the system to
foster worldwide economic
growth and promote free trade
through greater international
cooperation.
"There should be a bigger
role for official international
agencies such as the Inter-
national Monetary Fund and
World Bank in channelling
international capital flows, with
commercial banks playing a
smaller role and private invest-
ment stepped up."

He said that the IMF should
borrow on the Euro-market and
the World Bank should provide
guarantees and political risk
insurance for poorer countries

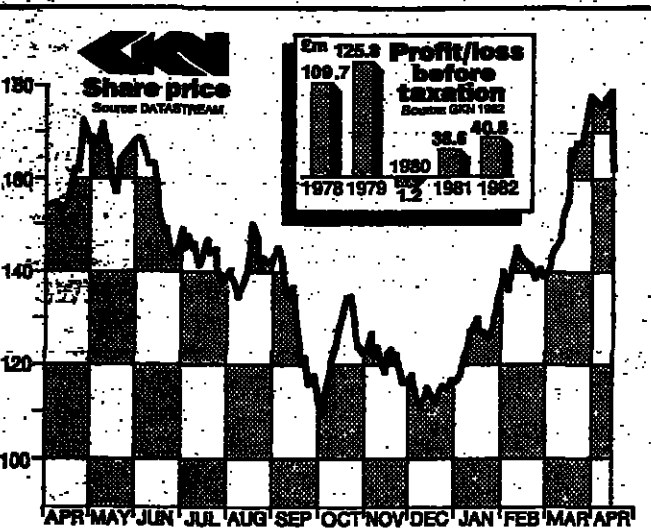
to allow them to raise bond
issues. However, he rejected
proposals for a
restructuring of the existing
debt burden with some new
government agency taking the
debt off banks' books.

There should be a gradual
move towards fixed exchange
rates either by merging cur-
rencies into blocks such as the
European Monetary System or
by general adoption of target
zones.

A return to a system of par
values would have to be taken
slowly because of the huge flows
of hot money. It would be
helped by closer coordination of
interest rate and economic
policies and the United States
would have to take a lead.

Special drawing rights
should be extended to gradually
take the place of currency
reserves and other reserve assets
in order to bring greater control
and management to interna-
tional liquidity and help
prevent inflation recurring.

The IMF Organization for
Economic Cooperation and
Development, Bank for Inter-
national Settlements, the World
Bank, and development banks
should cooperate more closely,
without losing their incentives.

GKN launches £77m
rights issue

By Andrew Cornish

Guest Keen & Nettelfields, against the West German
Britain's largest engineering
group, is launching a £77.2m
rights issue in an attempt to
ease group borrowings which
have now reached £25m.

Shareholders will be asked to
subscribe to the issue of 52,211,721
shares on a one for three basis
at 145p each, at an extra-
ordinary meeting on April 29.
Sir Trevor Holdsworth, chair-
man, has said that the proceeds
of the rights issue will be used to
rebuild the group's capital base,
and to enable the group to react
positively when market condi-
tions improve. The company
said there are no plans to use
the funds for acquisitions.

The GKN acquisition sheet has
taken a battering over the past
three years, after heavy losses
in the 1970s and a sharp decline
in the number of employees cut by
32,000 at the end of 1979 to
37,000 today. This has meant
£178m in extraordinary costs
over the period, on top of the
£100m a year invested on plant
and equipment.

Pressure on GKN to arrange
a fresh injection of funding has
intensified over the last three
months, when borrowings have
soared by £50m largely because
of the weakening of the pound.

NEI profit leaps to £39m

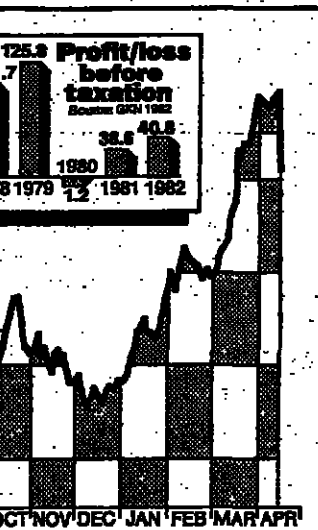
By Sally White

Northern Engineering Indus-
tries, the Newcastle-based en-
gineering contractor for power
stations and other heavy capital
projects, has announced a 20
per cent rise in 1982 pretax
profits at £39.5m. Net orders in
hand now total a record
£1,485m, against £1,100m this
time last year.

The one piece of bad news in
the figures for the year is the
£4.1m loss at Eitel Corporation
which, has suffered from de-
valuation in the United States
telecommunications business.

But staff there has since been
cut by 40 per cent, and the
company is about to launch a
new range of communication
terminals and message switch-
ing devices, which it hopes will
lead to a trading improvement
in the second half of 1983.

Capital spending last year
was £39m and is likely to be
nearer £30m this year.
Investors' notebook, page 14



Talbot making operating profit

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Talbot UK, the car manufac-
turer owned by Peugeot of
France but once part of Chrysler
Group, has started this year to
make a net profit for the first
time in almost a decade.

Mr George Turnbull, the
chairman and a former BL
managing director, said yester-
day that the company made an
operating profit of £4.9m in the
second half of last year,
compared with an operating
loss of £30.5m in the first six
months.

This progress has been
maintained in the first quarter
of 1983 when we have con-
tinued to trade profitably and,
because of the buoyancy of the
domestic market, have recorded
a small net profit.

Talbot, which was bought by
Peugeot in 1979 from the
American Chrysler Corpora-
tion, is basing much of its
optimism on resumption of
normal operations with Iran,
which buys cars in kit-form
from Britain. Iran is seeking
delivery of 95,000 kits this year.

Talbot's 1982 results, dis-
closed by the parent group last
month, show a net loss of
£54.7m against the record £91m
loss the previous year. There
was a net loss of £14.2m in the
second half on top of the first
half loss of £40.5m. Interest
charges for the year were nearly
£21m.

Mr Norman Lamont, Minis-
ter of State for Industry,
yesterday launched a spirited
defence of BL's overseas colla-
boration agreements. It was
sensible, he said, to suggest
that such deals were tantamount
to "selling out" the British motor
industry to foreign interests.

"If BL is to win market share,
and it must, then it must have
the best technology available. If
that means going abroad, then
ultimately it is in the best
interests of the company, of the
BL workforce, of those who
supply BL and of those who
supply the suppliers," he told
members of the Garage and Tool
Makers' Association in London.

Mr Lamont praised BL's
deals with Honda of Japan
which have led to the Triumph
Acclaim and the new Project
XX executive car.

Profit back
at Brook
Street

By Our Financial Staff

Brook Street Bureau
Year to 31.12.82
Trading loss £207,000 (£1.5m)
Sterling loss 7.13p (10.30p)
Turnover £14.4m (£14.5m)
Net dividend 0.1p (0.1p)
Dividend payable 1.7.83

Brook Street Bureau, the
largest British private employ-
ment agency, should be back in
profit this year after two years
of recession - induced losses.

The second half of last year
saw losses reduced to £173,000,
compared with the first half's
loss of £633,000, to give a full-
year figure of £207,000 against
£1.5m the previous year.

The loss includes costs of
£160,000 for branch closures,
offset by Australian property
sales which raised £157,000.
The dividend for the year is
again a nominal 0.1p.

Following last year's closures
- there are no more to come -
the company is trading from 95
British branches and should be
making a trading profit with
two or three months.

There are no borrowing and
cash is £160,000 higher than a
year ago. Australia, where the
recession is running six to nine
months behind Britain, is still
trading from two branches with
one mothballed, compared with
a year ago.

The upturn in the American
economy, with one office in
New York, should start to show
in group results in six months.

● SWISS SETBACK: Swiss
banking, emerging from a year
of record and near-record
profits, is less profitable than it
may seem, the Swiss Banking
Commission said.

UDS board
favours
Bassishaw

By Jonathan Clare

A cliff-hanging finale is in
prospect for the battle for UDS
after the board of the retailing
conglomerate decided yesterday
to recommend the cash bid
from the Bassishaw consortium,
even though it is lower than the
offer from Hanson Trust.

The UDS board made it clear
that it had much more faith in
the written assurances given by
Mr Gerald Ronson, Bassishaw's
chairman, than those Hanson
Trust made when it first bid.

The decision, however, again
split the board. Sir Robert
Clark, the chairman, and Mr
David Jessel opposed the
Bassishaw recommendation.
The other six directors favoured
Bassishaw. There had been
hopes of a unanimous decision.

The UDS board said that
after two meetings with Hanson
Trust it could get no further
assurances. It also said that the
assurances were similar to those
Hanson gave in bidding for
Berec; however, after Hanson
took over Berec, a programme
of disposals and closures was
carried out.

The board believed that
UDS, under Bassishaw, would
continue as a leading British
retail group. There were "speci-
fic and positive assurances"
about the future of the business
and employment.

Bassishaw's cash offer of
130p is 3 1/2p lower than
Hanson's cash alternative -
"a relatively small amount."

Hanson has a higher share
offer on the table, but UDS
shareholders have shown a
greater performance for cash.

Sir Robert and Mr Jessel said
that Hanson's assurances were
satisfactory and recognised the
rights of employees.

City Comment

Ransoming
Reagan's
good works

Political horse-trading is rarely
an edifying sight, but at the
moment the United States
Congress, where the art had
appeared to have reached its
highest state, is surpassing
even itself.

The Senate banking com-
mittee is blatantly ransoming
its endorsement of increased
American International
Monetary Fund quotas for
support by the Administration
for tighter regulation of
foreign lending by American
banks.

This is an unprincipled
tactic. It is important that the
quota increase, to which the
Administration has already
given its agreement as the
biggest shareholder in the
IMF, goes through as soon as
possible.

The faster national legis-
latures ratify the quota in-
crease agreed in February,
under the chairmanship of Sir
Geoffrey Howe, the better
equipped the IMF will be to
prevent the debt crisis erupt-
ing again, with all the
attendant risk of suffering.

What makes the Senate's
behaviour especially distastful
is that the \$8,500m (£5,666m)
American quota increase is no
charge on the budget. A quota
is a credit line, not a cash
commitment. It costs the
sensitive American taxpayer
nothing to reduce the risk of
international financial crisis.

It does not follow that there
is no case for more control
over banks' foreign lending.
By putting up their own
proposals, federal banking
regulators appear to have
accepted the need, or at least
the political necessity for a
tougher regime. But IMF
quotas are not bargaining
counters.

● RETAIL MOVE: A new
organization, the British Re-
tailers Association representing
the interests of the United
Kingdom department stores
and multiple retailers has been
formed as a result of the merger
of the British Multiple Retailers
Association and the Association
of Retail Distributors.

REFUGE
ASSURANCE
GROUP
RESULTS
1982

TOTAL
PREMIUM
INCOME
£91.5 millions
(1981-£87.9 millions)

IMPROVED
LIFE BRANCH
BONUSES

The surplus for the year allocated to
policyholders was £43.4 millions
(1981-£37.1 millions)

ASSETS
INCREASED
At December 31st 1982 the total assets
were valued at £916 millions
(1981-£720 millions)

Refuge
ASSURANCE LTD

Chief Office: Oxford Street, Manchester M60 7HA
Telephone: 061-236 9432
Registered Number 1364 England

Company's fight for independence could be undermined
Americans own more than 50pc of Sotheby

More than 50 per cent of the
share capital of Sotheby's
Bernet, the London-based fine
art auctioneer, is now owned
by a 260m takeover battle is now
believed to be an American
hand.

The prospect of several
sizeable American sharehold-
ings in the company's bank under-
mine the company's financial
independence since the sale of
a 520p per share bid from Mr
Marshall Cogan and Mr
Stephen Swid, two New York
financiers and art collectors.
Sotheby's directors have pre-
ferred their bid as a way
to ensure the company's future
and 133 of the
group's art experts have
been asked to resign if control
passes into their hands.

However, over the last six
months an increasing number
of shares have found their way
into the hands of American
investors, many looking for a
fast return as speculation
increased about an imminent
takeover bid.
In addition to the 14 per cent

stake held by the business
interests of Messrs Cogan and
Swid and the 6 per cent owned
by Mr David Murdoch, a
Canadian businessman, the
New York bank, the New
York bank, is now acting as
agent for more than 30 per cent
of the share.

These shares are being held
mainly on behalf of American
arbitrageurs who have bought
into the company for specula-
tive purposes. But Warner
Communications, the leisure
group, is also believed to retain
a stake of up to 4 per cent.
In addition, Shaik Nassar al-

Sabah, of Kuwait, who also
owns a 6 per cent interest in
Christies International, Sothe-
by's smaller but most important
rival, is said to own nearly 5 per
cent of the shares.

The Sotheby's directors have
made clear that they regard
Messrs Swid and Cogan as

unsuitable for association with
the company. But the presence
of the speculative Morgan
Guaranty shareholding would
suggest they would be unwise to
rely on the argument as the
basis of their defence.

With several substantial sales
lined up for the next two
months, including the Haver-
meyer collection of impressionist
paintings in New York, Sothe-
by is saying that this is one of
the most impressive January-July
seasons it has had.

City investment analysts
believe that although figures for
the half year to the end of
February are likely to show
considerable losses before tax,
full-year figures to the end of
August could well reveal a
recovery to profits of more than
£2m.

On the stock market yester-
day, Sotheby's shares rose 2p to
532p as dealers speculated on
the possibility of Sotheby
finding a rival bidder it finds
more suitable.

Granville & Co Limited. (Formerly M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited) 27/28 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-821 1212 The Over-the-Counter Market									
1982/83	1981/82	Company	Price	Chg/pt	Open	Close	Yld %	P/E	Fully Taxed
142	120	Ass Brit Ind Ord	135	+1	6.4	4.7	7.9	10.3	
158	117	Ass Brit Ind CULS	151	+1	10.0	6.6	-	-	
74	57	Airspeed Group	62	-	6.1	9.8	17.7	17.7	
46	30	Armstrong & Rhodes	30	-	4.3	14.3	3.3	5.9	
315	197	Bardon Hill	315	-	11.4	3.6	13.2	16.7	
140	100	OCL 11.0% Conv Pref	140	+1	15.7	11.2	-	-	
270	210	Cindico Group	210	+1	17.6	8.4	-	-	
86	52	Deborah Services	52	-	6.0	11.5	3.4	9.3	
96	77	Frank Horsell	96	-	-	-	8.0	8.6	
94 1/2	75 1/2	Frank Horsell Pr Ord 87	94 1/2	-	8.7	9.2	10.5	11.3	
83	61	Frederick Parker	62	-	7.1	11.5	3.9	6.2	
105	34	George Blair	34	-	-	-	5.9	12.3	
158	100	Ind Proc Castings	79	+1	7.3	9.2	10.1	12.7	
158	100	Isis Conv Pref	138	+2	15.7	9.9	-	-	
14	94	Jackson Group	142	-	7.5	5.3	4.4	9.0	
204	111	James Brough	204	-	9.6	4.7	14.9	16.6	
260	148	Robert Jenkins	148	-	20.0	13.0	1.6	34.4	
83	54	Suttons "A"	71	+1	5.7	9.0	9.2	11.1	
167	112	Terata & Carlisle	114	+1	11.4	10.0	5.1	8.7	
29	21	Unilever Holdings	25.5	-	0.46	1.8	-	-	
85	64	Walker Alexander	65	-	6.4	9.8	4.6	6.7	
270	214	W. S. Yates	263	+1	17.1	6.5	4.0	8.4	
Prices now available on Prestel, page 48146									

APPOINTMENTS

New joint chief at Aitken Hume

Mr M. C. Storey has been appointed joint chief executive with Mr M. Aitken of the Aitken Hume Group.

Dr G. Hetherington has become deputy chairman of TSL Thermal Syndicate.

Mr David Kern is the new manager and chief economist, market intelligence department, of National Westminster Bank.

Mr Michael Fletcher has been appointed managing director of Planned Savings Group.

Mr B. S. Sheppard becomes a director of Olympic (Redacre).

Mr C. J. M. Parker has been elected chairman of A. Caird & Sons.

Mr Abel Hadden has been appointed director of Good Relations Group and chief executive of Good Relations.

Mr John P. Clark has been elected to the board of Wigham Poland Pension Consultants.

Mr Colin E. Brown has been appointed a director of Wigham Poland Non Marine.

Mr W. J. Fox is joining the board of LCP Holdings.

Mr John Earl has been made managing director of Haden Drys International, the industrial finishing and mechanical handling division of Haden.

Mr J. A. Griffiths has joined the board of Initial, in the newly created position of finance director.

Mr J. W. Moffat has been appointed a managing director of Marley Floors.

Mr W. D. H. Gregson has become a non-executive director of H. Brammer.

Mr G. A. J. Jamieson, a director of Robert Fleming Holdings, has been elected chairman of The Charities Official Investment Fund.

Mr Helmut Schmen has become a senior vice-chairman of World-Wide Shipping Agency, in Hongkong. Mr Stephen Y. K. Pae has been appointed as senior executive director of World-Wide Shipping Agency, and also as director of Marine Navigation, the group's affiliates in London.

None but the most steady of monetarists now believes that exchange rates are best left solely to market forces. The wild week-by-week movements of currencies in recent years have often borne little relation to real economic forces.

European governments (with a brief post-election lapse by the Thatcher Government) have not hesitated to buy or sell their own currencies when they see fit from the "helpful hand" on the "tiller" advocated by the Bank of England governor to the all-out defence of the currency pursued - though without conspicuous success - by the French.

But the Americans, whose currency still dominates the world financial scene, refuse to play ball. Their policy of "benign neglect", which has accompanied a soaring dollar, has Europeans claim, deepened the world recession and held back economic recovery by pushing up interest rates and inflation.

Whether currency intervention, as distinct from more fundamental policy changes, would have made a great deal of difference is doubtful. But the technical intervention issue has become overlaid with more political passions.

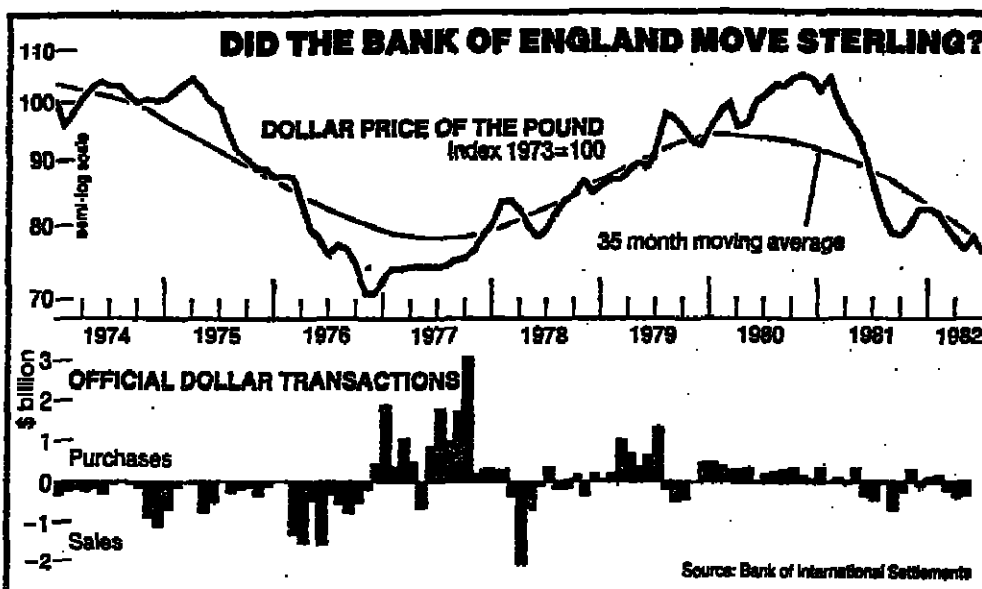
In microcosm, it represents the war being waged by Europe on American economic isolationism. A retreat from "benign neglect" would, the European camp hopes, pave the way for further modification of US policies to take account of their international repercussions, notably by action to curb rising budget deficits.

To the Europeans' delight, the Americans have scored something of an own goal with their suggestion at last year's Versailles summit for a study on the efficacy of intervention. This successfully defused the issue for a while, as it was intended to do. But the report, due to be published shortly, before the Williamsburg summit next month, supports the European stance.

Though it makes no recommendations, its technical analysis suggests that intervention does work in reducing currency fluctuations.

The study, chaired by M. Philippe Jurgensen, a senior French finance official, draws a distinction between "sterilized" and non-sterilized intervention, according to whether the authorities allow their foreign exchange operations to affect domestic money policy or not.

Intervention, say, to support sterling automatically tightens money conditions at home because the Bank of England is buying pounds and taking them out of circulation. This puts upward pressure on interest



Growing call for US currency intervention

rates unless the effect is counteracted or "sterilized". Clearly, sterilized intervention is likely to be less effective than if the authorities had allowed money conditions to tighten. Reinforcing action by governments, to squeeze money policy further, will have an even greater impact on the currency.

American intervention has

The issue has become overlaid with political passions

typically been of the sterilized variety because their system of targeting bank reserves would otherwise lead to cash floods or famines in the money markets as dollars drained in or out of the system.

In Europe, where the authorities tend to target broader money measures, intervention has normally been non-sterilized.

In Britain, for instance, the Bank of England offsets the effects of its currency market operations - for the same reasons as the Americans do it. But these transactions would normally affect the main target measure of money growth. The amount of intervention since

1977, when the cap was lifted from sterling, has generally been very small. So, in practice the direct impact on domestic monetary conditions has been negligible.

The fact that American intervention has typically been less effective than European currency operations may provide a face-saver for Mr Beryl Sprinkel, US Treasury Undersecretary and arch-opponent of intervention, but it is not going to deflect pressure on the Americans to come into line when heads of government discuss the issue again.

Further support for the European position comes in a study published last month by the Bank for International Settlements, the central bankers' club based in Basle.

This concludes, from a study of foreign exchange operations by Britain, Germany and Japan, that official intervention is predominantly stabilizing. "These findings would appear to put the burden of proof on those who argue that the official role in the exchange markets has been primarily unhelpful and will continue to be so in the future", the study says, in an unmistakable sideways at the United States.

The paper's authors, whose views broadly reflect those of the BIS, reject the use of a

profitability criterion. This is the most widely used measure of the effectiveness of currency intervention and the one, albeit surrounded by caveats, on which the Jurgensen study was based.

Instead they looked at whether intervention pushed the exchange rate towards or away from its long run equilibrium.

There are signs that the US may be willing to budge

riety rate as measured by a 35-month moving average.

Where the exchange rate was close to its equilibrium level they judged that intervention was helpful if it pushed the currency back towards its last observed level - on the grounds that the authorities may not know precisely where equilibrium lies and may wish to prevent movements going too far.

On the first criterion alone stabilizing interventions outnumbered destabilizing interventions between 1974 and 1982 by 24 to 1 in Germany, and 4 to 1 in Japan. In Britain the balance was roughly equal. Using both tests together the

ratios were 6 to 1 in Germany and Japan, 2 to 1 in Britain.

The British performance is weakened by the 1977 episode where the authorities intervened massively to stop sterling rising. Since early 1979, the BIS study suggests, stabilizing intervention has been 11 times more frequent on the first criterion and six times more frequent taking the two together.

The object of official intervention, the study suggests, should be to give the currency markets a clearer idea of where the long-run equilibrium level of the exchange rate ought to be.

"The prime purpose of official intervention should not be to 'outguess the market' but, in conjunction with other policy actions, to create a more stable and predictable environment", the authors say.

There are growing signs that the United States may be willing to budge. The American authorities have recently ventured, on the odd occasion, tiny sums in exchange operations. In policy terms that represents a defeat for the hardliners, though its impact on the currency will have been negligible.

Mr Anthony Solomon, president of the New York Fed, which carries out US official intervention, said a few days ago that the outlines of an understanding on limited intervention could be reached at Williamsburg.

Finally, the Americans are beginning to talk openly about the need for changes in the international monetary order. Such calls will meet with cynicism in Europe unless the United States shows itself willing to make concessions.

However, even if agreement on currency intervention is reached, this will do little to ease the more fundamental problem of long run swings in exchange rates which bear little relation to economic performance. The fixed exchange rate system imposed economic convergence between countries through the discipline of balancing their trade.

Now governments are arguing that convergence is a precondition of more stable exchange rates. It will take more than a couple of academic studies to produce agreement here.

Frances Williams

"Official Intervention in the Exchange Markets: stabilizing or destabilizing?" by Helmut Mayer and Hiroo Taguchi (BIS Monthly Papers No 6 - March 1983).

Industrial notebook

Aircraft that should be left grounded

Britain's struggling aerospace industry is becoming more strident in its calls on the Government to commit vast sums on Europe's latest, decidedly dubious aircraft venture.

Mrs Thatcher and her ever-optimistic team know that in this industry the funds and the gamble are enormous. But the odds against success for the proposed "mini Airbus", the 150-seat jet airliner being developed by the Airbus Industrie consortium, are longer or still.

Even so, the Government appears nearly ready to spend the money - up to £400m - even though the Airbus consortium has yet to provide the British, French, West German and Spanish partners with much hope of a return.

The aircraft, the A320, would turn Airbus's products into a proper family - like Boeing's of the United States - and it is being planned as a very high technology, super efficient, big profit earning short-haul jet. But it appears unlikely that it will ever get off the drawing boards. Even if it does, it is unlikely to fly before the 1990s and then will have to compete with the mighty Boeing.

With the world's airlines receding from recession, nobody is forecasting with confidence when the market will revive sufficiently to warrant the massive investment - probably as much as £1,000m - necessary to build a new aircraft. By the end of the decade, business air travel in particular is likely to be eroded dramatically by advances in electronic communications.

The result for Airbus is a Catch 22 dilemma. Governments will not stump up the cash until airlines order enough A320s to make the project practicable and the airlines are wary of committing themselves before the aircraft becomes a reality.

Public utterances have shown admirable caution on the part of the British and Germans, who have been attacked by the French for being too timid with their money. In the midst of the bickering, Mr Norman

Lamont, Britain's Industry Minister, said recently: "We have had far too many prestige and political aircraft in this country in the past."

The A320 is an unnecessary luxury for Britain at the moment. British Aerospace last week reported a dramatic deterioration in its fortunes - from a £70m profit in 1981 to a £15.3m loss last year, the result of a £100m "exceptional provision" to insulate itself from the poor state of the aircraft market.

Rolls-Royce, whose losses have bounded from £3m to £134m over the same period, is now in bed with its archrival, Pratt & Whitney of the United States, to continue work on a new engine to power 150-seater. That project, which also involves Japanese, Italian and German manufacturers, could add £500m to the "lunch aid" bill presented to Mrs Thatcher.

Boeing has spent about \$40m on its 150-seater, the 7-7, but the plane remains a designer's dream and the company is banking more on the continued success of the 737, of which later versions could be equipped with Rolls' engine. Each-way bets in the aircraft business are far safer.

Renewed turbulence now surrounds the A320. British Airways apparently being nudged by the Government to ape Air France and place some orders. BA buys American jets but does not want Airbus but it may find the political pressure irresistible.

At the Paris Air Show next month, the Airbus consortium will no doubt be making confident noises about the A320, but the British Government would be better to remain cautious despite the tempting employment benefits that BA's 39 per cent share in the aircraft would bring.

Meanwhile, Boeing's canny executives are sitting contentedly on the sidelines watching with glee the European governmental sparring and humming that American city: "Anything you can do..."

Edward Townsend

1982/83	1983/84	1984/85	1985/86	1986/87	1987/88	1988/89	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35	2035/36	2036/37	2037/38	2038/39	2039/40	2040/41	2041/42	2042/43	2043/44	2044/45	2045/46	2046/47	2047/48	2048/49	2049/50	2050/51	2051/52	2052/53	2053/54	2054/55	2055/56	2056/57	2057/58	2058/59	2059/60	2060/61	2061/62	2062/63	2063/64	2064/65	2065/66	2066/67	2067/68	2068/69	2069/70	2070/71	2071/72	2072/73	2073/74	2074/75	2075/76	2076/77	2077/78	2078/79	2079/80	2080/81	2081/82	2082/83	2083/84	2084/85	2085/86	2086/87	2087/88	2088/89	2089/90	2090/91	2091/92	2092/93	2093/94	2094/95	2095/96	2096/97	2097/98	2098/99	2099/00	2100/01	2101/02	2102/03	2103/04	2104/05	2105/06	2106/07	2107/08	2108/09	2109/10	2110/11	2111/12	2112/13	2113/14	2114/15	2115/16	2116/17	2117/18	2118/19	2119/20	2120/21	2121/22	2122/23	2123/24	2124/25	2125/26	2126/27	2127/28	2128/29	2129/30	2130/31	2131/32	2132/33	2133/34	2134/35	2135/36	2136/37	2137/38	2138/39	2139/40	2140/41	2141/42	2142/43	2143/44	2144/45	2145/46	2146/47	2147/48	2148/49	2149/50	2150/51	2151/52	2152/53	2153/54	2154/55	2155/56	2156/57	2157/58	2158/59	2159/60	2160/61	2161/62	2162/63	2163/64	2164/65	2165/66	2166/67	2167/68	2168/69	2169/70	2170/71	2171/72	2172/73	2173/74	2174/75	2175/76	2176/77	2177/78	2178/79	2179/80	2180/81	2181/82	2182/83	2183/84	2184/85	2185/86	2186/87	2187/88	2188/89	2189/90	2190/91	2191/92	2192/93	2193/94	2194/95	2195/96	2196/97	2197/98	2198/99	2199/00	2200/01	2201/02	2202/03	2203/04	2204/05	2205/06	2206/07	2207/08	2208/09	2209/10	2210/11	2211/12	2212/13	2213/14	2214/15	2215/16	2216/17	2217/18	2218/19	2219/20	2220/21	2221/22	2222/23	2223/24	2224/25	2225/26	2226/27	2227/28	2228/29	2229/30	2230/31	2231/32	2232/33	2233/34	2234/35	2235/36	2236/37	2237/38	2238/39	2239/40	2240/41	2241/42	2242/43	2243/44	2244/45	2245/46	2246/47	2247/48	2248/49	2249/50	2250/51	2251/52	2252/53	2253/54	2254/55	2255/56	2256/57	2257/58	2258/59	2259/60	2260/61	2261/62	2262/63	2263/64	2264/65	2265/66	2266/67	2267/68	2268/69	2269/70	2270/71	2271/72	2272/73	2273/74	2274/75	2275/76	2276/77	2277/78	2278/79	2279/80	2280/81	2281/82	2282/83	2283/84	2284/85	2285/86	2286/87	2287/88	2288/89	2289/90	2290/91	2291/92	2292/93	2293/94	2294/95	2295/96	2296/97	2297/98	2298/99	2299/00	2300/01	2301/02	2302/03	2303/04	2304/05	2305/06	2306/07	2307/08	2308/09	2309/10	2310/11	2311/12	2312/13	2313/14	2314/15	2315/16	2316/17	2317/18	2318/19	2319/20	2320/21	2321/22	2322/23	2323/24	2324/25	2325/26	2326/27	2327/28	2328/29	2329/30	2330/31	2331/32	2332/33	2333/34	2334/35	2335/36	2336/37	2337/38	2338/39	2339/40	2340/41	2341/42	2342/43	2343/44	2344/45	2345/46	2346/47	2347/48	2348/49	2349/50	2350/51	2351/52	2352/53	2353/54	2354/55	2355/56	2356/57	2357/58	2358/59	2359/60	2360/61	2361/62	2362/63	2363/64	2364/65	2365/66	2366/67	2367/68	2368/69	2369/70	2370/71	2371/72	2372/73	2373/74	2374/75	2375/76	2376/77	2377/78	2378/79	2379/80	2380/81	2381/82	2382/83	2383/84	2384/85	2385/86	2386/87	2387/88	2388/89	2389/90	2390/91	2391/92	2392/93	2393/94	2394/95	2395/96	2396/97	2397/98	2398/99	2399/00	2400/01	2401/02	2402/03	2403/04	2404/05	2405/06	2406/07	2407/08	2408/09	2409/10	2410/11	2411/12	2412/13	2413/14	2414/15	2415/16	2416/17	2417/18	2418/19	2419/20	2420/21	2421/22	2422/23	2423/24	2424/25	2425/26	2426/27	2427/28	2428/29	2429/30	2430/31	2431/32	2432/33	2433/34	2434/35	2435/36	2436/37	2437/38	2438/39	2439/40	2440/41	2441/42	2442/43	2443/44	2444/45	2445/46	2446/47	2447/48	2448/49	2449/50	2450/51	2451/52	2452/53	2453/54	2454/55	2455/56	2456/57	2457/58	2458/59	2459/60	2460/61	2461/62	2462/63	2463/64	2464/65	2465/66	2466/67	2467/68	2468/69	2469/70	2470/71	2471/72	2472/73	2473/74	2474/75	2475/76	2476/77	2477/78	2478/79	2479/80	2480/81	2481/82	2482/83	2483/84	2484/85	2485/86	2486/87	2487/88	2488/89	2489/90	2490/91	2491/92	2492/93	2493/94	2494/95	2495/96	2496/97	2497/98	2498/99	2499/00	2500/01	2501/02	2502/03	2503/04	2504/05	2505/06	2506/07	2507/08	2508/09	2509/10	2510/11	2511/12	2512/13	2513/14	2514/15	2515/16	2516/17	2517/18	2518/19	2519/20	2520/21	2521/22	2522/23	2523/24	2524/25	2525/26	2526/27	2527/28	2528/29	2529/30	2530/31	2531/32	2532/33	2533/34	2534/35	2535/36	2536/37	2537/38	2538/39	2539/40	2540/41	2541/42	2542/43	2543/44	2544/45	2545/46	2546/47	2547/48	2548/49	2549/50	2550/51	2551/52	2552/53	2553/54	2554/55	2555/56	2556/57	2557/58	2558/59	2559/60	2560/61	2561/62	2562/63	2563/64	2564/65	2565/66	2566/67	2567/68	2568/69	2569/70	2570/71	2571/72	2572/73	2573/74	2574/75	2575/76	2576/77	2577/78	2578/79	2579/80	2580/81	2581/82	2582/83	2583/84	2584/85	2585/86	2586/87	2587/88	2588/89	2589/90	2590/91	2591/92	2592/93	2593/94	2594/95	2595/96	2596/97	2597/98	2598/99	2599/00	2600/01	2601/02	2602/03	2603/04	2604/05	2605/06	2606/07	2607/08	2608/09	2609/10	2610/11	2611/12	2612/13	2613/14	2614/15	2615/16	2616/17	2617/18	2618/19	2619/20	2620/21	2621/22	2622/23	2623/24	2624/25	2625/26	2626/27	2627/28	2628/29	2629/30	2630/31	2631/32	2632/33	2633/34	2634/35	2635/36	2636/37	2637/38	2638/39	2639/40	2640/41	2641/42	2642/43	2643/44	2644/45	2645/46	2646/47	2647/48	2648/49	2649/50	2650/51	2651/52	2652/53	2653/54	2654/55	2655/56	2656/57	2657/58	2658/59	2659/60	2660/61	2661/62	2662/63	2663/64	2664/65	2665/66	2666/67	2667/68	2668/69	2669/70	2670/71	2671/72	2672/73	2673/74	2674/75	2675/76	2676/77	2677/78	2678/79	2679/80	2680/81	2681/82	2682/83	2683/84	2684/85	2685/86	2686/87	2687/88	2688/89	2689/90	2690/91	2691/92	2692/93	2693/94	2694/95	2695/96	2696/97	2697/98	2698/99	2699/00	2700/01	2701/02	2702/03	2703/04	2704/05	2705/06	2706/07	2707/08	2708/09	2709/10	2710/11	2711/12	2712/13	2713/14	2714/15	2715/16	2716/17	2717/18	2718/19	2719/20	2720/21	2721/22	2722/23	2723/24	2724/25	2725/26	2726/27	2727/28	2728/29	2729/30	2730/31	2731/32	2732/33	2733/34	2734/35	2735/36	2736/37	2737/38	2738/39	2739/40	2740/41	2741/42	2742/43	2743/44	2744/45	2745/46	2746/47	2747/48	2748/49	2749/50	2750/51	2751/52	2752/53	2753/54	2754/55	2755/56	2756/57	2757/58	2758/59	2759/60	2760/61	2761/62	2762/63	2763/64	2764/65	2765/66	2766/67	2767/68	2768/69	2769/70	2770/71	2771/72	2772/73	2773/74	2774/75	2775/76	2776/77	2777/78	2778/79	2779/80	2780/81	2781/82	2782/83	2783/84	2784/85	2785/86	2786/87	2787/88	2788/89	2789/90	2790/91	2791/92	2792/93	2793/94	2794/95	2795/96	2796/97	2797/98	2798/99	2799/00	2800/01	2801/02	2802/03	2803/04	2804/05	2805/06	2806/07	2807/08	2808/09	2809/10	2810/11	2811/12	2812/13	2813/14	2814/15	2815/16	2816/17	2817/18	2818/19	2819/20	2820/21	2821/22	2822/23	2823/24	2824/25	2825/26	2826/27	2827/28	2828/29	2829/30	2830/31	2831/32	2832/33	2833/34	2834/35	2835/36	2836/37	2837/38	2838/39	2839/40	2840/41	2841/42	2842/43	2843/44	2844/45	2845/46	2846/47	2847/48	2848/49	2849/50	2850/51	2851/52	2852/53	2853/54	2854/55	2855/56	2856/57	2857/58	2858/59	2859/60	2860/61	2861/62	2862/63	2863/64	2864/65	2865/66	2866/67	2867/68	2868/69	2869/70	2870/71	2871/72	2872/73	2873/74	2874/75	2875/76	2876/77	2877/78	2878/79	2879/80	2880/81	2881/82	2882/83	2883/84	2884/85	2885/86	2886/87	2887/88	2888/89	2889/90	2890/91	2891/92	2892/93	2893/94	2894/95	2895/96	2896/97	2897/98	2898/99	2899/00	2900/01	2901/02	2902/03	2903/04	2904/05	2905/06	2906/07	2907/08	2908/09	2909/10	2910/11	2911/12	2912/13	2913/14	2914/15	2915/16	2916/17	2917/18	2918/19	2919/20	2920/21	2921/22	2922/23	2923/24	2924/25	2925/26	2926/27	2927/28	2928/29	2929/30	2930/31	2931/32	2932/33	2933/34	2934/35	2935/36	2936/37	2937/38	2938/39	2939/40	2940/41	2941/42	2942/43	2943/44	2944/45	2945/46	2946/47	2947/48	2948/49	2949/50	2950/51	2951/52	2952/53	2953/54	2954/55	2955/56	2956/57	2957/58	2958/59	2959/60	2960/61	2961/62	2962/63	2963/64	2964/65	2965/66	2966/67	2967/68	2968/69	2969/70	2970/71	2971/72	2972/73	2973/74	2974/75	2975/76	2976/77	2977/78	2978/79	2979/80	2980/81	2981/82	2982/83	2983/84	2984/85	2985/86	2986/87	2987/88	2988/89	2989/90	2990/91	2991/92	2992/93	2993/94	2994/95	2995/96	2996/97	2997/98	2998/99	2999/00	3000/01	3001/02	3002/03	3003/04	3004/05	3005/06	3006/07	3007/08	3008/09	3009/10	3010/11	3011/12	3012/13	3013/1
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BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY BELL'S

Shares of Debenhams, the department store chain, continued to scale new heights yesterday on hopes of a bid once the UDS battle has been decided.

The price rose 7p to a new high of 125p as more than 1 million shares changed hands after hours alone. At this level the group with 67 department stores is valued at £167m. Favourite candidate to make a bid is Mr Gerald Ronson's Heron Group, currently tied up in the Bassishaw consortium bidding for UDS.

Last month National Insurance Guarantee, a subsidiary of Heron, bought more than 1 million shares at around the 118p level. But last night Heron denied it had been buying more shares. On behalf of Mr Ronson, Mr Cyril Spencer, chief executive of Bassishaw, said: "We have definitely not been dealing in Debenhams, and have no intention of making a bid."

However, with a net asset value of 226.3p a share the temptation to make a bid for the company remains great. Debenhams had no comment to make.

Debenhams at record 125p

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, Monday, Dealings end, April 22, Contango Day, April 25, Settlement Day, May 3.

Meanwhile, the rest of the equity market showed no signs of running out of steam. Blue chips led the way higher on hopes of an imminent cut in bank base rates with the FT Index closing another 3.8 up at a new peak of 687.7 for a two-day rise of 12.7.

Shares of Intasun Leisure Group, the holiday tour operators, held steady at 131p despite a large seller of 4.5 million shares - 9% of the equity. The seller is thought to have been a member who sold below the market price.

Even the surprise £77.2m cash call from GKN, Britain's biggest engineering group, failed to dampen enthusiasm as the price tumbled 16p to 162p. TI Group lost 2p to 162p after 158p, in sympathy.

Gills continued to reflect growing optimism of a cut in base rates and the pound's continued recovery on the

foreign exchange, where it ended up 1.45 cents at \$1.5415. But earlier gains of more than £1 were pared by profit-taking as investors raised cash for application in the new tap, where dealings start tomorrow. In longs, prices ended the day 2 1/2% easier, while shorts were 2 1/2% lower.

Expect details this week of BET's minority bid for Rediffusion. The merchant bank is putting the finishing touches to the deal, whereby BET will buy the remaining 36.1 per cent of the shares. Meanwhile, Mr Hugh Dundas, chairman of BET, has again denied the company was itself the target of a bid as the shares added another 10p to 245p yesterday. "There is no one breathing down our necks," he said.

C. H. Beazer has won control of Second City Properties by the skin of its teeth. Acceptances for its 77p share bid, valuing the Birmingham-based property group at £18.1m, amounted to

54 per cent of the shares. The offer has now gone unconditional. Meanwhile, Michael Ashcroft's, Kean & Scott, has also won its battle for control of furniture manufacturer, Alpine Holdings, with the offer now going unconditional. Acceptances totalled 7.3 million shares, including 679,000 shares in respect of the separate cash offer, which accounts for 77 per cent of the company.

Unigroup has placed 1.2 million shares at 50p to raise £570,000. The money will be used to sell its air-based refillable aerosol system. On the unlisted Securities Market, shares of Fitch & Co were unchanged at 125p despite Monday's figures showing the group easily exceeding profits with pretax profits of £875,000 compared with the earlier figure of £825,000.

Millard Docks rallied after Monday's shake-out with the price closing 25p dearer at 75p, still reflecting the recent gains in the raising proposals. Earlier this year, the shares were traded at around 150p amid hopes of a long-awaited bid.

1982/83										Int. Div.	Grav. Div.	
High	Low	Stock								Price	Ch'ge	Yield
BRITISH FUNDS												
EQUITIES												
100%	100%	Treas	91%	1983	9914	0%	0%	0%	0%	9,267	8,919	
100%	100%	Equity	100%	1983	10154	0%	0%	0%	0%	12,260	10,919	
100%	100%	Income	100%	1983	10004	0%	0%	0%	0%	10,000	10,000	
98%	97%	Fund	91%	1983-84	9174	0%	0%	0%	0%	5,662	4,406	
100%	100%	Equity	100%	1983	10004	0%	0%	0%	0%	10,000	10,000	
98%	97%	Fund	91%	1983-84	9174	0%	0%	0%	0%	5,662	4,406	
98%	97%	Fund	91%	1983-84	9174	0%	0%	0%	0%	5,662	4,406	
100%	100%	Treas	100%	1983	10004	0%	0%	0%	0%	10,000	10,000	
100%	100%	Equity	100%	1983	10004	0%	0%	0%	0%	10,000	10,000	
100%	100%	Income	100%	1983	10004	0%	0%	0%	0%	10,000	10,000	
100%	100%	Real	100%	1983	10004	0%	0%	0%	0%	10,000	10,000	
100%	100%	Index	100%	1983	10004	0%	0%	0%	0%	10,000	10,000	
100%	100%	Global	100%	1983	10004	0%	0%	0%	0%	10,000	10,000	
100%	100%	World	100%	1983	10004	0%	0%	0%	0%	10,000	10,000	
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100%	100%	South	100%	1983	10004	0%	0%	0%	0%	10,000	10,000	
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100%	100%	Europe	100%	1983	10004	0%	0%					

GOLF: BALLESTEROS THE MASTER

Spaniard tames himself as well as the course

From A Special Correspondent
Augusta, Georgia

Severino Ballesteros won his second Masters in three years with a disciplined performance here that belied his reputation as a wild hitter.

The 26-year-old Spaniard mastered the wind and the wiles of a rain-soaked Augusta National course on Monday to score a four-stroke victory with an eight-under-par total of 280. He picked up four strokes on the first four holes and then played cool, conservative golf, with pars on the final six holes, to win the first prize of \$90,000 with a round of 69.

Ballesteros seized the initiative from his closest rivals, who included three other former champions, with a birdie on the opening hole to pull into a tie for the lead. On the 555-yard second his four-wood approach shot soared 245 yards to the green where it came to rest 15 feet from the flag. The eagle putt was true and Ballesteros suddenly enjoyed a two-stroke lead which he never surrendered.

After narrowly missing a birdie putt at the next hole he struck a two-iron, two-shot just two feet from the flag at the short fourth for another birdie.

Ballesteros said the first four holes were the key to his victory: "I played four under the first four holes. That put me nine under and sent my confidence straight up."

The United States and British Open Champion, Tom Watson, playing with Ballesteros, made a brief challenge when he rolled in a long eagle putt at the eighth to close the gap to two strokes; but he fell away, needing three putts at the next three greens.

Ben Crenshaw and Tom Kite, with a 68 and a 69 respectively, were joint runners-up on 284, one ahead of Watson and Ray Floyd, who tied for third with a 70. Craig Stadler and Jack Nicklaus, on 286, Kite said he felt like a Chevrolet trying to catch a Ferrari.

Stadler and Floyd began the round as joint leaders, one ahead of Ballesteros and two in front of Watson as four Masters champions headed the scoreboard. But the other three had no answer to the Spaniard's opening play and Stadler fell back with a 76, Floyd with a 75 and Watson with a 73.

Although no serious challenge came Ballesteros played confidently down the homeward stretch and then delighted the gallery by



Ballesteros embraces his caddy and his second Masters

chipping into the hole at the 18th to save par in a final flourish. He missed only one fairway all day, at the 13th, where he tried to play the course and he cool, that's all," he said.

Final scores from Augusta

(US unless stated)

290: S Ballesteros (Sp) 68	70	73	69
284: S Crenshaw	70	70	69
284: S Kite	70	72	69
286: T Watson	71	71	73
286: R Floyd	69	72	75
286: C Stadler	69	72	69
286: J Nicklaus	72	72	69
287: S Watson	70	70	71
287: G Morgan	70	70	71
288: D Pohl	74	72	71
288: S Simpson	72	72	73
288: W Law	72	72	71
288: J C Snead	68	74	73
288: G Archer	71	73	71
288: L Wad	72	70	74
289: T Moulton (Jap)	72	70	72
289: K Fergus	70	69	74
289: J Palmer	67	75	70
289: I Reid (Jap)	70	70	71
289: N Faldo (Eng)	70	70	71
289: P Oosterhuis (Ned)	68	73	72
289: T Weir	75	72	71
289: L Trevino	71	72	71

293: F Zoller	70	74	75	72
293: P Jacobson	73	71	75	72
293: M Hayes	73	73	75	72
293: J Hama	73	73	75	72
293: H Sutton	73	73	75	72
293: S Hoch	74	69	74	76
294: G Norman (Aus)	71	74	75	76
294: A North	71	75	72	75
295: G Hallberg	71	71	75	76
295: F Couper	73	68	71	73
295: C Beck	70	70	75	72
295: P Stewart	70	70	75	72
296: A Palmer	68	74	75	76
296: Y Higuchi (Jap)	72	75	73	74
296: C Condy	68	73	75	74
296: D Edwards	70	76	79	71
297: J Halvett (am)	68	73	75	76
297: J Mulvaney	71	74	75	76
298: S Litzke	69	75	62	72
298: J Muld	72	68	72	68
298: M Whitte	74	74	75	74
298: D Graham (Aus)	71	74	80	75
298: G Brewer	72	73	80	76
298: R Shearer (Aus)	70	77	77	76
298: C Pesto	70	72	87	80

Eventing: Badminton's youngest competitor

Ambitious contender who has Mrs Green in her sights

Karen Straker, the reigning European junior champion, is the youngest competitor to enter this year's Badminton Horse Trials. At eighteen and a half she is six months over the minimum age; some consider it unduly bold. Lieutenant-Colonel Frank Weldon, the director of the Trials, says she is "taking an ambitious plunge into adult competition at the deep end."

Miss Straker is unmovable, perhaps remembering that Richard Walker, at the same age, became the youngest Badminton winner ever in 1969 riding Pasha. He, too, was European junior champion at the time. Miss Straker says calmly: "I'm not nervous yet but I expect I shall be on the day."

The vast crowds which Badminton always attracts will be new to her and her horse, running Bear, but Miss Straker has reassured herself by speaking to other riders. "They all say you don't notice the crowds when you're going round and in a sense they channel you into the fence because the course is the only place where there aren't people," Miss Straker's philosophical approach is born of a strong back-up team and her own ability. After all, she has qualified in a year when the qualification is stiffer than ever.

The youngest of five children (the other are all boys), Miss Straker comes from a family where anyone who showed talent at a horse was encouraged to develop it. Her mother, Elaine, is the driving force. A former eventer and point-to-pointer Miss Straker has a gift both for teaching and for finding the right horse for her offspring. She is also well acquainted with Badminton. Two of her sons have competed there on the family's home-bred George, the horse which carried Lucinda Green (then Prior-Palmer) to victory in 1977.

Running Bear, a 10-year-old gelding, was one of Mrs Straker's "finds". Unusually for an eventer, she is a former steepler (he was trained by Arthur Stephenson) and came to Mrs Straker's attention when she was asked by his own trainer to help train him for local hunter trials and events. Mrs Straker saw and appreciated the tremendous scope of the horse.

He is the only horse that Mrs Straker had bought "made". All the others which have passed through the family home at Chop Gate on the North Yorkshire Moors have either been bred at home or bought broken in, still needed to be retrained to start a career as an eventer. He justified the Strakers' confidence, being upgraded in one season from novice to advanced.

The form which has given Miss Straker her champion status and qualified her for Badminton is impressive (the new Badminton qualification allows only Grade I horses and they must have come in the first 10 at two advanced



Miss Straker and Running Bear on winning trail at Rotherfield

competitions in the last two years). After a successful career in the Pony Club - first the Zealand and then the Hurworth - on a horse called Peppercorn she became, at 15, one of Britain's "junior squad". At the same time she was second and Miss Straker won the individual class. She knew, however, that Peppercorn did not have the necessary scope to carry her into senior competition.

It was at this stage that Running Bear made his timely appearance. In the autumn of 1981 Miss Straker won three intermediate classes in a row with her new partner. The next year, at Rotherfield in Hampshire, they became junior European champions and over the last 12 months Miss Straker has more than held her own against the seniors.

Unlike many of her fellow competitors Miss Straker is not a "full-time" eventer - at least not yet. She is halfway through a business studies course at St Godric's College, London, which she sees as another way of getting work during the winter.

The college broke up only three weeks ago. During the term she could do no more in preparation for Badminton than travel back to Yorkshire each weekend to ride Running Bear. During the week Mrs Straker sees to Running Bear's fitness, squash, tennis and swimming, and she is lucky to have a resident trainer in her mother.

A career in eventing for Miss Straker will depend on her finding a sponsor. At the moment the family sell a horse a year to help towards the expense. She also recognizes the need for a broad outlook. This is one reason why she is talking herself off to Karl Schultz, the German dressage expert, for several weeks next winter. She has already spent six weeks with Lucinda Green under a scheme introduced by the British Horse Society whereby top eventers help juniors of their choice.

Miss Straker fully intends not to lose sight of the fun side of the sport, but she knows she would not be in it without a keen sight on winning. "They say you need a lot of good luck and good management for success." Of the latter she is assured. Given a fair measure of the former, her next figure and fair hair could become as familiar as Mrs Green's.

Jenny MacArthur

WOMEN'S HOCKEY: MORE PROGRESS IN WORLD EVENTS

England drop second group point

From Joyce Whitehead, Kuala Lumpur

England, though still unbeaten in the World Cup tournament for women, dropped their second group point yesterday in a 1-1 draw with Argentina and must be worried about their qualification for Group B for a place in the semi-final round.

This was the first time that an England team had entered a sporting field against Argentina since the Falklands crisis. Each side was tactically defensive and neither was able to keep the game flowing.

England looked solid in the first half and Argentina scored in the 23rd minute when Monica Orelio put the finishing touch to a good passing movement started on the right wing. England's defence was kept busy after that, but there were

too few attackers to achieve the desired result. In the second half, Argentina scored in the 45th minute when Jane Swinerton, soon equalized for England; it was a reward for persistence. England forced seven short corners in this period but the Argentine defence refused to yield.

Ireland are playing better and better, and yesterday they beat Austria 4-1 in the Intercontinental Cup. Austria's goal was from a penalty stroke, and then came four goals to Ireland. Joanne McNamee equalized before half-time, Margaret Gieghorn with a solo run from the 25-yard line Gwen Paul, (two), and Eilish Macken from a penalty stroke completed the scoring. Ireland's teamwork, even with three substitu-

tes including the goalkeeper, brought in in the second half, contributed greatly to their success. Australia were lucky to beat India 3-2 in the World Cup match which started at 7.30am. India were two goals up before Australia made the score 2-1 at half-time.

The United Kingdom teams and Ireland have no matches today but England play New Zealand, and Scotland play Wales in the World Cup tomorrow.

WORLD CUP, Group A: Australia 3, India 2. Group B: England 1, Argentina 1; West Germany 2, Soviet Union 0; New Zealand 2, Canada 1.

INTER-CONTINENTAL CUP, Group B: Japan 5, Hong Kong 1; Belgium 2, South Korea 1; Austria 4, Austria 1; England 4, Spain 4; France 0.

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Word processing experience desirable although training will be given. Salaries will be up to £9,000 according to age and experience. Other benefits include subsidised lunch, excellent facilities, local car parking, staff discounts etc. For an application form please telephone Rosie Wilson on 01-222 9050. No agencies please.

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c. £13,320 p.a. inc. tax free

Allied Medical Group are British consultants to the prestigious 600 bed Riyadh Al Khay Hospital Programme. We now seek a Medical Secretariat Supervisor to manage the day-to-day operations of the secretariat pool at the main hospital in Riyadh. This will involve ensuring high standards in quality and quantity of work liaison with medical and other hospital personnel; providing training and ensuring motivation of staff.

You will need to be well educated and have a medical secretarial qualification with at least five years' experience - two of which should have been in a supervisory capacity. Demonstrable management ability and highly developed interpersonal skills are essential.

The tax free salary (based on 5.0 Saudi Riyals = £1) includes a bonus of one month's salary for each 12 months satisfactory service. In addition, this single status two year contract basic cost attracts one of the best packages in the Middle East. For full details please write quoting Ref RKH 718 to: Theresa Satterthwaite, Senior Personnel Officer, Allied Medical Group, 18 Grosvenor Gardens, London, SW1P 0DZ. Alternatively, call our 24 hour answering service on 01-739 5339, quoting the reference number.

ST THOMAS'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL (United Medical Schools) LONDON, SE1 7EH

DEAN'S SECRETARY/STUDENT ADMISSIONS SECRETARY

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The UK Sales Company are currently seeking a high calibre Secretary for their Sales Department.

Responsibilities will include looking after the Regional Sales Managers and Sales force, general administration and liaison with Inside Sales Administration and other internal departments.

Excellent secretarial skills are essential and applicants should be well organised and highly motivated to deal with this challenging position. A good working knowledge of Italian would be an asset.

A competitive salary is offered. Please reply in confidence giving concise career and personal details to:

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Enzy Chemical Limited
John Busch House
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Ipsworth, Middlesex

PA/SECRETARY to the chairman

c. £7,500

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As PA/SECRETARY to the Chairman you would hold a highly demanding, but extremely interesting post and would be greatly involved in the progress of this new Authority. Although previous medical experience is not essential you must be somebody of considerable experience and maturity with impeccable secretarial skills, who has held a position as personal assistant before. You'll need to have plenty of initiative and organisational ability.

We work a 36 hour week, offer 4 weeks annual holiday and have a wide range of sports and social facilities.

For further details and an application form contact our District Personnel Office, District Offices, Richmond, Twickenham & Roehampton H.A., Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, London SW15. Tel: 01-789 7971, ext. 31.

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First class office (shorthand

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Two views of an Indian statesman

A high-contrast, black and white photograph showing a group of people. The image is heavily stylized with a grainy, almost pointillist texture. In the foreground, a person's face is partially visible on the left, looking towards the camera. To the right, another person's face is visible, looking slightly away. The background is filled with other figures, their features less distinct due to the high contrast and grain. The overall composition suggests a crowded or public setting, possibly a protest or a gathering.

The real Mahatma Gandhi (above) photographed in Delhi with two disciples on January 14, 1948. Below: Ben Kingsley and two actresses in a scene from the film.



A hard act to depict as subversive

There were statutory Labour cries of "disgraceful." But Dr Vaughan's next words were: "I am glad to do this since we are discussing an organization which fulfills an important national and local

The Government's anti-subversion tacticians, then, had fingered the wrong organization as a CND-front. They should have gone for more plausible targets such as the Church of England, Channel 4, or the Soviet Trade Delegation at Highgate—anything other than the Lady Ricketts Gang, an organization whose tentacles turned out to reach deep into the Tory backbenches.

If the Army command finds that the former President has a case to answer under the military legal code, the 60-day sentence could be changed from a disciplinary measure into "preventive detention," pending investigation of the conduct of the war. The commission is expected to complete its report some time in May or June.

The 60-day imprisonment order is in itself one of the most severe sanctions ever suffered

[illegible]